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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all his arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Finance Bill as Passed by the House.

Failure of the Measure Affecting Pittsburgh Select Council.

The House Refuses to Reduce Legislative Salaries.

Bill for Taxation of Oil Derricks, &c.

Industrial Schools for Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial

HARRISBURG, PA., February 8, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate met at 11 A. M., the Lieutenant Governor in the chair. A large number of petitions were presented and properly referred.

Reports of Committees—Mr. Lawrence, from the special Committee appointed to investigate the affairs of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, presented a minority report.

By Mr. Rutan—Bill authorizing the Commissioners of the several counties of the State to fix the compensation for light, rent and fuel for election districts in their respective counties.

Bills Introduced—Mr. Strang—Authorizing the Governor to appoint a commission to advise a plan or plans for the government of the cities of the Commonwealth.

Also an act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of commercial companies, and also of companies to receive and execute trusts.

Mr. Anderson, of Allegheny—Asking an appropriation for the propagation of fish in the Delaware, and for the exhibition of fish at the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia.

Mr. Jones—Act establishing industrial or technical schools in cities of the first and second classes. Section 1 provides that the School Department may accept land in fee for the erection of technical schools. The Governor shall appoint thirteen trustees. One hundred thousand dollars are appropriated for the purpose of erecting buildings and furnishing such schools.

Mr. Strang—Act to provide for changing the location of the principal offices of certain corporations, with the assent of one-quarter of the holders of the capital stock.

Mr. Shimer—Act relative to the valuation of real estate for purposes of taxation.

Mr. Lawrence—Act to repeal so much of the act to incorporate railroad companies to secure the payment of their bonds and obligations by mortgage upon their property, rights and franchises, as may be necessary to relieve narrow gauge railroads of fifty miles or less in length and with a subscribed capital stock of less than $500,000.

Bills on Third Reading—Act regulating passenger fares and freight rates on railroads not exceeding fifteen miles in length. Passed.

Act to enable citizens of the United States to hold and convey titles which had been held by aliens and corporations not authorized by law to hold the same. Passed.

Act conferring equity jurisdiction upon Courts of Common Pleas in all cases of mortgages of property and franchises by railroad, canal or navigation companies Passed.

Act relating to landlords and tenants of dwelling houses belonging to owners or operators of coal mines. Postponed.

Act for the prevention of horses, cattle, sheep and swine running at large in the various townships of the Commonwealth, when a majority of voters thereof shall so decide. Defeated.

Supplementary act designating the several classes of contested elections in the Commonwealth and providing for the trial thereof; providing for the payment of costs in contested elections when the Court decides that the complaint is not without probable cause. Passed.

Act relating to costs in criminal cases. Recommitted to the Judiciary Committee.

Supplementary to the act relative to burial grounds and cemeteries situated in incorporated boroughs; changing the title of said act and authorizing the court to make the orders and decrees required by the act, and enforce the same by process. Passed.

Act relating to the payment of licenses for hotels, inns, taverns, eating-houses and restaurants. Recommitted to the Finance Committee.

H. L. Snyder, of Osceola, Clearfield county, was nominated by the Governor as a notary public.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House met at 10 A. M.

Mr. Lusk, from the Committee on Ways and Means, on leave, reported, with affirmative recommendation, an act to impose a tax on derricks, oil tanks, &c., for county purposes.

Bills on Third Reading—Act to provide for the erection of watering troughs for the use of horses and cattle on public roads. Postponed for the present.

Act relative to damages on mesne profits. Passed.

Supplementary to the act to provide for the appointment of a special detective officer in any of the several counties of the Commonwealth. Amended to make its provisions apply to the detective appointed under the act of 1874, to which this is a supplement. It was then laid over under the rule.

Act empowering camp meeting associations to employ a police force. Passed.

Act providing for the entry of satisfaction of judgments which have been fully paid by defendants. Passed.

Act fixing the number, duties and compensation of officers and employees of the Senate and House of Representatives, outlining down all salaries. Defeated—yeas 72, nays 79.

Mr. Christy then moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the bill was defeated, which was not agreed to, thus disposing of the matter finally.

Bills on Second Reading—Act empowering Councils of cities of the Commonwealth to prescribe by ordinance the salary to be paid out of the City Treasury to the Mayor, Controller, Treasurer and all officers and employees of said cities respectively, in lieu of all fees, fines and costs; the manner in which said salaries shall be paid; and directing all fees, fines and costs to be paid into the City Treasury. Passed.

Act regulating the publication of accounts and financial statements of school boards. Laid over.

Mr. Talley called up the report of the Conference Committee on the Finance bill.

Mr. Lusk moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. Spicer submitted his objection to the report at length.

The report was adopted and the bill passed—yeas 152, nays 19.

The bill as passed is as follows:

An act supplementary to the act entitled, "An act supplementary to the several acts relating to the State Treasurer and Commissioners of the Sinking Fund," approved May ninth, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That the sinking fund shall consist of the proceeds of the sale of the public works or any part thereof, income or proceeds of the sale of any stocks owned by the Commonwealth, and two-thirds of all the tax on the capital stock of all corporations of this Commonwealth. The general revenue fund shall consist of one-third of all the taxes on the capital stock of corporations and all other revenues of the Commonwealth: *Provided, however*, That for the fiscal year ending November third, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, two-thirds of the amount derived from the tax on the capital stock of corporations shall be paid into the general revenue fund, and the remaining one-third into the sinking fund: *Provided*, That this act shall not be so construed as to authorize the use or application of any moneys which under existing laws have already been paid into the sinking fund, other wise than in the manner provided for the public debt, unless in case of war, invasion or insurrection.

SEC. 2. That the State Treasurer shall, on the first business day of each month, render a statement of account to the Auditor General, giving in detail the different sums which go to make up the grand total of the amount on that day in the State Treasury, belonging exclusively to the sinking fund; such statement shall include the names of banks, corporations, firms or individuals with whom the moneys of said fund are deposited, with the various amounts of such deposits, the securities held by the State for the safe keeping of the same, and the rate of interest or other consideration, if any, received by the State on such deposits; and shall be accompanied by the affirmation of the State Treasurer, and recorded in a book kept for that purpose in the Auditor General's office, and shall be open for the inspection of the Governor, heads of departments, members of the Legislature, or any citizen of the State desiring to inspect the same; and each bank, corporation, firm or individual with whom such moneys are deposited shall render, on the first business day of each month, an account to the Auditor General, corresponding to that of the State Treasurer, giving the amount of such moneys deposited during the month, the amount on such deposit, the rate of interest, if any, paid on such deposit and the security held by the State for the keeping of such moneys.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the State Treasurer to render a statement to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund on the first business day of January, April, July and October, in each and every year, giving the balance remaining in the sinking fund in excess of the amount required to pay the interest on the public debt, whereupon the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund shall authorize the purchase by the fiscal agent of the Commonwealth of the loans of the Commonwealth next maturing at their market rates. *Provided*, Such purchase can be made for the best interests of the Commonwealth: *Provided further*, That all such investments shall immediately be cancelled by said agent, and the certificate of the same forwarded to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, in like manner as if the said loan had been redeemed by the State.

SEC. 4. The State Treasurer shall, in his monthly report to the Auditor General, take credit for the amount of such purchases made by the said fiscal agent, and shall also give the rate and amount of premium, if any, paid for such purchases.

SEC. 5. All laws or parts of laws inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

The House then adjourned.

The Local Judiciary Committee will return to the House to-morrow, with a negative recommendation, the act regulating the representation and election of members of Select Council of the several wards of cities of the second class of the Commonwealth. This virtually kills the bill. It would now require a two-thirds vote to pass it in the House, which insures its defeat and will leave the representation of the Select Council of Pittsburgh the same as at present.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

DR. KENEALLY ABOUT AGAIN.

LONDON, February 8.—Some excitement was caused around Trafalgar square by the attempt of Magna Chartists to escort Dr. Keneally to Westminster, this being frustrated by the police.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT—FULL TEXT OF THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

LONDON, February 8.—The Queen opened Parliament soon after noon to-day, but did not read her speech in person. Her Majesty did not go in state. Although the weather was dull and cold, thousands of people lined the streets through which the Queen and attendants passed. By command of the Queen the usual ringing of bells of Westminster Abbey and St. Margaret's Church, were omitted, in consequence of the illness of Lady Augusta Stanley. The Princess of Wales, Duchess of Edinburgh, Marchioness of Lorne and Princess Beatrice accompanied the Queen. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Cairns, read the Queen's speech, as follows:

My Lords and Gentlemen:

It is with much satisfaction that I again resort to the advice and assistance of my Parliament.

My relations with all foreign powers continue of a cordial character.

The insurrectionary movement which, during the last six months, has been maintained in the Turkish provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and which the troops of the Sultan, up to the present time, have been unable to repress, has excited the attention and interest of the great European Powers. I have considered it my duty not to stand aloof from the efforts now being made by allied and friendly Governments to bring about the pacification of the disturbed districts, and I have accordingly, while respecting the independence of the Porte, joined in urging on the Sultan the expediency of adopting such measures of administrative reform as may remove all reasonable causes of discontent on the part of his Christian subjects.

I have agreed to purchase, subject to your sanction, the shares which belonged to the Khedive of Egypt in the Suez Canal, and I rely with confidence upon your entertaining no doubt as to the transaction, in which the public interests are deeply involved.

The representations which I addressed to the Chinese Government as to the attack made in the course of the last year on an expedition sent from Burmah to the Western provinces of China, have been received in a friendly spirit. The circumstances of that lamentable outrage are now the subject of an inquiry, in which I have thought right to request that a member of my diplomatic service should take part. I await the result of this inquiry in the firm conviction that it will be so conducted as to lead to the discovery and punishment of the offenders.

The papers on all the above subjects will be laid before you.

I am deeply thankful for the uninterrupted health which my dear son, the Prince of Wales, has enjoyed during his journey through India; and the hearty affection with which he has been received by my Indian subjects of all classes and races, assures me that they are happy under my rule and loyal to my throne. At the time that the direct government of my Indian Empire was transferred to the Crown, no formal addition was made to the style and titles of the sovereign. I have deemed the present a fitting opportunity for supplying this omission, and a bill upon the subject will be presented to you.

The humane and enlightened policy constantly pursued by this country in putting an end to slavery within her own dependencies and in suppressing the slave trade throughout the world, makes it important that the action of the British national ships in the territorial waters of foreign States should be in harmony with these great objects. I have therefore given directions for the issue of a royal commission to inquire into all treaty engagements and other international obligations bearing upon this subject, and all instructions from time to time issued to my naval officers, with the view to ascertain whether any steps ought to be taken to secure for my ships and their commanders abroad greater power for the maintenance of the right of personal liberty. A bill will be laid before you for punishing the slave-traders who are subjects of native Indian princes.

The affairs of my colonial empire, the general prosperity of which has continued to advance, have received a large share of my attention. Papers of importance and interest will soon be in your hands, showing the proceedings with respect to a conference of the South African colonies and States.

The murder of a high officer of the Straits Settlements, while acting in a neighboring Malay State, and the disorders ensuing on that outrage, have demanded the interference of my troops. I trust that the operations will be speedily and successfully closed, though not without the loss of some valuable lives, have restored order and re-established the just influence and authority of this country.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons, I have directed the estimates for the year to be prepared and presented to you without delay.

My Lords and Gentlemen, bills for regulating an ultimate tribunal of appeal for the United Kingdom and for the amendment of the merchant shipping laws, will be immediately submitted to you. Legislation will be proposed relating to the universities and primary education. Your attention will be called also to a measure for promoting economy and efficiency in the management of prisons, and at the same time effecting the relief of local burdens. Other important measures, as the time of the session permits, will be introduced to your notice, and I pray that your deliberations may, under the Divine blessing, result in the happiness and contentment of my people.

Soon after the reading of the Queen's speech had been concluded, Sir Stafford Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced a resolution for next Monday to cover the purchase of the Khedive's Suez Canal shares.

Mr. Gorst, member for the City of London, gave notice that he will ask the First Lord of the Admiralty, on Thursday next, when he intends to submit papers relative to the case of Her Majesty's steamship Vanguard.

Mr. Plimsoll will to-morrow introduce an amended Shipping bill.

The Government has given notice of Marine Insurance and Merchant Shipping bills for Thursday.

The debate on the address in answer to the Queen's speech, has opened. The attendance is very full, all the leading members being present.

In the House of Commons, during the debate on the address, the Marquis of Hartington, the Liberal leader, said, in reference to the Fugitive Slave circulars issued by the Admiralty, that although the country did not want its ships to be made asylums for the destitute, the discretion of their commanders should not be interfered with. Such discretion, he present circulars would be suspended, pending the result of the inquiry to be made by a royal commission. He was not disposed to raise objections to the peculiar steps taken by the Government in regard to the Eastern question. Her Majesty's ministers had doubtless done their best to maintain the integrity of the Turkish power; nevertheless, he thought the policy indicated by Palmerston had been acted upon. The House, however, would await the production of the papers before pronouncing any definite opinion. He urged the Government to explain the purchase of the Suez Canal shares speedily. He thought that it would have been better if the advice of Parliament had first been taken, and questioned the soundness of the purchase commercially and politically. He wished to know how it could secure an uninterrupted passage to India, for he apprehended in case of war the Khedive would at once close the canal. He desired an explanation given of Cave's mission to Egypt.

Mr. Disraeli spoke in reply. On the subject of the Fugitive Slave circulars, he said it was the strong desire and intention of the Government to discourage and abolish slavery wherever possible. He contended that the Government had given an earnest of this desire by what they had already done in Africa. He admitted his responsibility for the first circular, though he never saw it. He did not defend it for a moment. Its recall had satisfied the country and he would not dwell upon it further. The second circular was, however, prepared by the Lord High Chancellor, and contained an accurate definition of the law. The circular was rendered necessary by the acts of English officers on foreign coasts entailing legal actions and the payment of compensation by the Government. He deprecated the suggestion that the Government should have issued the instructions secretly. The royal commission would not only inquire into the present state of the law, but also see where it is advisable to alter it, and how, by negotiation, an alteration could be effected.

The inquiry would be free and open with reference to Herzegovina. Mr. Disraeli declares that the Government could not have acted otherwise than it did. A refusal to recommend the Porte to give favorable consideration to the Austrian proposals would have placed England in an undesirable state of isolation. If England had refused to agree to the note, the Sultan would necessarily at once have rejected it. Then England would have been in the unpleasant position which would have followed if further questions had arisen as to whether we should support the Sultan in resistance to the other Powers. If England had proposed a conference, its only course would probably have been to adopt the very suggestions contained in the Austrian note. If the present proposals should not prove successful in settling the complication, England would be as free as to the future as she was before the Austrian note was written.

Mr. Disraeli then turned to the subject of the Suez Canal shares purchase. He denied that the Government had said anything about the Eastern question in connection with the matter. He reminded the House that important questions affecting the canal had been the subject of an international conference during the existence of the last Government. He stated that when the Government was first offered the Khedive's shares, they replied that they were disposed to assist the Khedive, but not to purchase the shares outright. The Khedive replied that he would, if possible, keep the shares. The news then suddenly came that a French society was willing to purchase the shares for nearly four millions sterling, but under conditions. The Khedive, according to a promise he had made, offered England the refusal of the shares. It was not a matter to hesitate over. In November, 1875, the French Ambassador asked Lord Derby whether he thought England would tolerate the purchase of the shares by a French company. Lord Derby replied that he did not think the English people would view with satisfaction the possession of all the shares by the French. After the transaction was completed the French Ambassador asked why England had bought the shares. The reply made was the same as before.

In regard to Cave's mission to Egypt the Premier only felt permitted to say that it was expected to produce results which gave every prospect that English interests would be adequately represented in the management of the canal. The Khedive's shares, he added, were purchased in time of peace. He considered that the purchase gave additional security to freedom of intercourse with India. He declined to enter upon an explanation as to what England would do in case of war. England had a large force in the Mediterranean and strongholds which she would never relinquish. Her policy then was not aggressive. He was confident the purchase of the canal shares would command the approval of the country, as it tended to maintain the integrity of the Empire. Mr. Disraeli, on concluding his speech, was much cheered.

Mr. Gladstone followed. He expressed a general approval of the Government's declining the policy of abstention in regard to Herzegovina.

Several Home Rule members spoke. They complained that the Government neglected the interests of Ireland and asked for the release of the Fenian convicts.

The address was agreed to.

Spain.

GENERAL ENGAGEMENT IN THE NORTH.

LONDON, February 8.—The Carlist Committee in this city have published intelligence from Hendaye, dated yesterday (Monday), that a great battle was begun Saturday between the Carlist and Alfonsist main bodies. Saturday afternoon, when this intelligence was dispatched from the field, the battle was progressing favorably. Carlists losses were inconsiderable, and they held all their positions. The troops were showing great confidence and enthusiasm.

BISCAY AND ALAVA IN THE HANDS OF ALFONSISTS.

MADRID, February 8.—The Royalists are now complete masters of the provinces of Biscay and Alava.

Steamship Marine News.

LONDON, February 8.—Steamship Rotterdam, from New York, for Rotterdam, has put into Gravesend and is coaling.

LONDON, February 8.—Steamships Nova Scotian, Germanic, and Republic, from New York, arrived out.

LARNE, February 8.—Steamship State of Pennsylvania, from New York, arrived.

The President's Private Secretary.

Ulysses S. Grant, Jr., second son of the President, is acting as Secretary to the President, pending the absence of the Secretary as a witness in the Babcock trial. Mr. Grant graduated at Harvard and about twenty-two years of age.

The Hawaiian Treaty.

There is a disposition by the Ways and Means Committee to report against the Hawaiian treaty.

Proposed Abolition of Supervisors of Internal Revenue.

In the Committee on Appropriations today, the question was asked of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue as to the practicability of dispensing with the ten supervisors of Internal revenue. It was shown that they cost last year upwards of $130,000, and of little or no service. The Commissioner admitted that if they were abolished and the internal revenue agents raised to fifty, he would collect more revenue than at present. He also showed that they had obstructed the efficiency of the service, that they were largely instrumental in insuring the success of the whisky frauds, that as a rule they were men of very ordinary ability and that their abolition would relieve the service of political pressure.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, February 8, 1876.

CHURCH OFFICIAL ARRESTED FOR FORGERY.

Perrin H. Sumner has been arrested in Brooklyn, charged with forgeries in California amounting to over $200,000. He was an official in a Baptist church, and covered his transactions with his profession of piety. Rev. Mr. Parshall, pastor of the church, learned of some of Sumner's transactions, and at once the latter plotted to ruin him by accusing him of adultery, which led to Parshall leaving his pulpit.

FAILURE OF DALE BROTHERS.

The failure of Dale Brothers, dealers in flannels and woolens, of Boston and 70 and 72 Worth street, this city, is made public. The liabilities are placed at over a million dollars, but the assets are said to be double that amounted.

MOODY AND SANKEY MEETING.

The large hall of the Hippodrome was filled to the doors to-night, on the occasion of the second revival meeting of Moody and Sankey. Mr. Moody took for the subject of his discourse the account of the man sick with the palsy, which he illustrated with many affecting incidents. After this, followed an earnest supplication that God would do wrong in this city what they had already done in Africa. He admitted his responsibility for the first circular, though he never saw it. He did not defend it for a moment. Its recall had satisfied the country and he would not dwell upon it further. The second circular was, however, prepared by the Lord High Chancellor, and contained an accurate definition of the law. The circular was rendered necessary by the acts of English officers on foreign coasts entailing legal actions and the payment of compensation by the Government. He deprecated the suggestion that the Government should have issued the instructions secretly. The royal commission would not only inquire into the present state of the law, but also see where it is advisable to alter it, and how,

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

House Committee on Appropriations.

Democratic Opposition to Its Absurd Reductions.

Passage by House of Bill Repealing Bankrupt Act.

Pinchback's Senatorial Chances---Edmunds Will Oppose His Admission.

Two Tainted Characters Find Shelter Among the House Officials.

Centennial Bill to Come Up in Senate To-Day.

The President's Son Appointed His Private Secretary ad Interim.

Proposed Abolition of Office of Supervisor of Internal Revenue.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 8, 1876.

Proposed Reduction of Appropriations.

The Democratic party in the House begin to show signs of weakening on the ill-considered reductions proposed by the Committee on Appropriations. This was shown by Wood and Hewitt, of New York, to-day, both of whom were very emphatic in their declarations that the tendency would inevitably be to give other nations advantage over the United States diplomatically and commercially.

Transportation of Animals.

The House Committee on Agriculture, in considering the transportation of animals, do not see that the patent cars recommended by Colonel Thomas A. Scott would obviate the evils complained of. The railroad men oppose frequent removals from the cars, on account of the expense of handling them.

Repeal of Bankrupt Act.

The passage to-day by the House of a bill to repeal the Bankrupt act, to take effect January 1, 1877, occasioned surprise. The repeal is absolute, except that all suits and proceedings now pending, wherein an adjudication of bankruptcy has been made, shall be proceeded with and governed in the same manner as if the law, which are continued in force for the purpose of closing up suit.

Pinchback's Chances.

The friends of Pinchback claim thirty-eight votes for his admission and thirty-four against. Senator Edwards, when the discussion is resumed, will speak against the admission, which occasions considerable consternation in the Pinchback camp. It is feared that the effect of this speech may be to change the results.

Two House Clerks.

Two of the clerks dismissed from the Postoffice Department on account of complicity in the Hines frauds, have been appointed to clerkships under the House.

The Centennial Bill in the Senate.

A canvass of the Senate shows forty-five votes for the Centennial appropriation. Senator Edmunds, who had doubts as to its constitutionality, after mature deliberation, has satisfied his conscience and has expressed his intention not to oppose the passage of the bill. It is possible that he will vote for it. Senators Cameron and Wallace will both speak on the question, if occasion requires.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., February 8, 1876.

MARRIAGE OF SENATOR CHRISTIANCY.

Senator Christiancy was married this morning to Miss Lillie Lugerbeel, lately clerk in the Treasury Department. Senator Ferry, his colleague, officiated as groomsman. Senator Christiancy is according to the Congressional Directory, nearly sixty-four years of age. The bride is represented to be nineteen.

THE DEMOCRATIC FINANCIAL POLICY.

The adjourned meeting of the Democratic Congressional Caucus, which was to have been held to-night, was to-day postponed till Thursday, owing to the sickness of Representative Lamar. It will be recollected that, at the meeting a week ago, Representative Landers introduced for discussion his House bill to repeal the act providing for the resumption of specie payment, and that Representative Payne offered, as a substitute, his House bill providing for a gradual resumption of specie payment. These propositions being antagonistic, some Democratic members are believed to favor a vote upon them in caucus, nor caring to commit themselves at present to any financial policy. They therefore predict that the propositions will not be directly voted upon, but referred to the Committee of Consultation.

Ohio Legislature.

COLUMBUS, February 8.—In the Senate, this afternoon, bills were introduced to provide for the taxation of dogs; to establish county boards for the examination in pharmacy of persons proposing to engage in the business of selling drugs.

In the House, bills were introduced to abolish the office of State Commissioner of Railroads and Telegraphs and the transfer of his duties to the Secretary of State; To require gas companies to accompany their monthly bills for gas with affidavits from the party examining the meter that the amount of gas charged has actually passed the meter, that the meter is in good condition and accurate, and that the gas is at least of twelve candle power.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

A boy named Herman Gerger was drowned on Monday, while skating in Wood's Park, Cincinnati.

The steamer Rotterdam, on which the forger Winslow is supposed to be, has put into Gravesend for coal.

James Stephens, the well-known Fenian "Head Center," is not dead, as reported, but is living in Paris, in good health.

Count von Arnim has sent a medical certificate to his agent at Berlin as proof that ill-health prevents his return to Germany.

There are no tidings of Frank Gilmore, the engineer who has been missing several days, from the Illinois Central depot at Cairo, and it is supposed he was drowned in the Ohio.

Mr. H. N. F. Lewis, of Chicago, editor of the *Western Rural*, has brought suit against Mr. Milton George and others, at the instigation of whom he was recently confined in the county jail. He claims $25,000 damages.

Captain Eads has received a dispatch from Col. Andrews, the contractor for jetties at the mouth of the Mississippi, announcing thirteen feet of water through the crest of the bar at South Pass, being an increase of three feet in the past eight days. Seven feet additional of water will entitle Captain Eads to the first payment, by the terms of his grant from Congress.

The following officers are declared elected as the Great Council of the Improved Order of Red Men of Ohio: Great Sachem, W. R. Hazlett, of Zanesville; Senior Sagamore, J. W. Underhill, of Van Wert; Junior Sagamore, T. E. Peckingpough, of Wooster; Chief of Records, Louis S. Sarose, of Dayton; Keeper of Wampum, George A. Peters, of Cincinnati; Great Prophet, Pasen Cootes, of Cincinnati; Representative, Joseph Dowdell, of Columbus. These officers will be installed at Steubenville, May 16.

The steamers State of Virginia, from Glasgow, and Columbus, from Hull, have arrived at New York; and the Batavia, from Liverpool, at Boston.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-day.—Stationary to falling barometer, easterly to southerly winds, slightly warmer and partly clear or cloudy weather, with probably rain areas.

Whitefield Church at Newburyport, Mass., and the First Church of Stafford, Conn., decline the invitation to the Plymouth Church Advisory Council.

The Ohio Centennial Educational Commission met at Columbus yesterday and adopted a resolution requesting the Centennial Managers to appropriate $1,000 to erect three sample school buildings on the Centennial grounds, provided other States will contribute an additional amount sufficient to erect the same.

A mob of masked men broke into the jail at Bloomington, Ind., yesterday morning, at two o'clock, and shot and killed a prisoner named C. A. Marshon. He had been sentenced for life to the penitentiary for murder, but a new trial was recently granted. The mob left a letter ordering the prisoner's attorney to leave town within thirty days.

WHISKY FRAUDS.

BABCOCK'S TRIAL BEGUN—JURY SWORN—OPENING SPEECH OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

ST. LOUIS, February 8.—The United States Circuit Court opened promptly at ten o'clock this morning, and without any delay the selection of a jury in the Babcock case was proceeded with. The jurors were examined very briefly by the prosecution. The defense made no examination whatever of most of the jurors, but three or four were put through a rigid inquiry. James Milton, of Marion county, was excused for cause, he admitting that the finding of an indictment against a party left a bad impression upon his mind, which would probably require proof to remove. Both sides exhausted all their peremptory challenges, three each, and the jury was finally sworn in at 11:45, composed of the following:

R. N. Blackwood, Lewis county.
Matt. Wodruff, Clarke county.
W. E. Wilson, Lewis county.
Ezra Johnson, Lewis county.
B. F. Snyder, Knox county.
J. M. Keathley, St. Charles county.
Edward B. F. May, Franklin county.
W. Blakesley, Adair county.
D. W. Tainter, Gasconade county.
Wm. S. Jewett, Jefferson county.
W. T. Jackson, Marion county.
Harvey Lesoma, Lewis county.

The District Attorney announced that no more whisky cases would come before the court at this special term, and all the jurors outside of this trial panel were discharged.

The District Attorney then addressed the jury, opening the case for the prosecution.

He repeated the history of the conspiracy which was organized here in 1871, stating that it involved all the distilleries and rectifiers and Government officers and employees here, and had its ramifications even in Washington. He cited several dispatches alleged to have passed between Joyce, McDonald, Avery and Babcock, to show that the two latter persons were engaged in the conspiracy and corresponded with the conspirators. Various letters between Joyce and Babcock, touching the appointment of Col. Constantine Maguire as Collector of Internal Revenue, after the death of Charles A. Ford, were cited, and Colonel Dyer stated that it would be proved that from that time on the defendant furnished information to the ring here. The defendant was thwarted in all its efforts to get an investigation that would reveal the frauds, for the reason that all the revenue agents sent here to examine affairs, were either bought up on their arrival, or advices had been received here of their contemplated visits and the opportunity thus given the distillers to straighten up and show regular work. Mr. Dyer claimed that it would be clearly shown that Babcock not only had full knowledge of the existence of the frauds which were carried on, but that he aided the conspirators in their work and received money directly from Joyce, who mailed it to him. Babcock and Avery were the two men at Washington who kept the ring posted. Even after the indictment of General John McDonald, Babcock, it would be proved, was in secret correspondence with him. The evidence would in a measure be circumstantial, but there would not be a link missing in the chain.

Joseph M. Fitzroy was then put on the witness stand for the prosecution. After testifying to his position in the revenue service, &c., he was asked by District Attorney Dyer, who conducted the examination, to state what he knew about C. G. Megrue, his operations here in 1871, &c.

Judge Krum objected, on the ground of hearsay, and because the indictment charged the defendant with conspiring to defraud the Government of seventy cents tax on certain proof spirits, whereas, in 1871, there was a tax of only fifty cents on proof spirits.

The Court held the point under advisement and allowed the witness to proceed but he was shortly withdrawn, and Mr. Thompson called to the stand. He gave the history of his connection with the ring, explained how he made crooked whisky, &c., &c., all of which has been stated numerous times before. During the examination of this witness, the defense objected to all questions not directly relevant to the indictment against the defendant, but Judge Dillon ruled that testimony to establish the existence of a conspiracy may be given, and the witness gave a tolerable full account of the ring and its operations.

Fitzroy was then recalled, and Colonel Dyer asked him if Megrue ever paid him any money.

Mr. Storrs objected to anything more pertaining to what he called "the Megrue conspiracy." He said that Thompson testified that it ended in 1872, and the prosecution in opening stated the same thing.

A long argument followed, during which Colonel Broadhead said the theory is there was a conspiracy formed in 1871, embracing the Supervisor, Collector, special revenue agent and others; that they went on making illicit spirits to the close of 1872, when there was a suspension; then, in 1875, the same parties went on again and made more illicit whisky. It was not necessary that they should meet in a room and lay their plans; it was a continuation of the same plan, the same division, &c. There was no formal understanding; they all knew what they were to do.

Judge Porter interrupted Col. Broadhead, and stated that counsel did not meet the question fairly. The question was, whether the prosecution intended to connect the defendant with the conspiracy of 1871. We have it openly avowed in the deliberate argument by the Government that there was a conspiracy in 1871, which ended in 1872. The same counsel calls to the stand a witness who says it was closed in November, 1872. The man who organized it left it and went away, and the effort is to connect the defendant with it. We submit that they cannot resort to such means to prove the connection of the defendant with this conspiracy.

Col. Broadhead replied that the prosecution didn't admit that there was a conspiracy commencing in 1871 and ending in 1872. It was continuous from 1871 to 1876, when the strong arm of the Government stopped it. May we not establish the fact that Megrue was only an officer of the ring, and was discharged when he went out and some one else put in his place? We don't claim that the defendant was connected with the conspiracy in 1871.

Judge Porter was glad the gentleman so frankly declared that General Babcock was not connected with the Megrue conspiracy; but is it fair for the Government to turn an indictment, charging intention to make illicit spirits in 1874, into an excuse to go back to a conspiracy with which it is admitted he had no connection, in order to convict him?

The Court said: "As we understand it, the inquiry of the witness is as to what took place in 1872, and it is objected to on the ground that the conspiracy is supposed to have ended in that year and is not connected with the conspiracy charged in the indictment. Counsel stated in the opening that the conspiracy with which the defendant is alleged to have been connected, commenced in 1871 and extended to 1875. Colonel Broadhead says the Government has no right to go into proof of the complicity of the defendant in 1871 or 1872. If it were a fact that the conspiracy ended in 1872, we should hold it irrelevant to admit anything further concerning that time; but it is not admitted that the conspiracy ended there. Mr. Thompson used language which seems to intimate that the conspiracy ended there, but that is the view of it from his standpoint. At present we think you had better direct your attention, not so much to the conspiracy in 1871 and 1872 as to 1873 and 1874. If we can see, when the case is all in, that the conspiracy in 1871 and 1872 is not a part of the conspiracy alleged in the indictment, and the defendant is not connected with the conspiracy in 1871 and 1872, then we can act on the testimony already presented and rule it out."

The court then adjourned.

Hon. E. C. Bready, of Washington, one of General Babcock's counsel, has been so indisposed since his arrival here, that he has not appeared in the case, and left for home to-night.

THE GOOD WORK AT NEW ORLEANS.

NEW ORLEANS, February 8.—Colonel W. J. Behan and John Thorn, of the firm of Behan, Thorn & Co., and John Henderson have been indicted by the Grand Jury, charged with receiving packages of distilled spirits, as wholesale liquor dealers, and knowingly, unlawfully and fraudently neglecting or omitting to make proper entries in the books which the law requires them to keep. There were five counts against Henderson; bail $10,000. Eight counts against Behan and Thorn; bail $16,000 each. District Attorney A. R. Beckwith, his assistant, Mr. Gurley, General Brady, Supervisor; Mr. Wheeler, Revenue Agent, and others are busily engaged weaving a web around the "crooked."

Cairo, and it is supposed he was drowned in the Ohio.

JEFFERSON DAVIS ANSWERED.

Authoritative Refutation of Davis' Statements—True Proportion of Federal and Rebel Deaths in Prison.

NORWICH, CONN., February 7.—Warren Lee Goss, President of the National Union of Andersonville Survivors, has written a letter to the *Bulletin*, replying to Jefferson Davis' assertion that the mortality of the Confederate prisoners in Union hands was in greater proportion than that of Union soldiers in rebel prisons. Mr. Goss quotes the Federal War Department figures, showing the total captures of soldiers and citizens by the Confederate forces to have been 188,145. And it is estimated that of these half were actually confined in prisons. The number of deaths in Confederate prisons was 36,401, consequently the per cent. of mortality in prisons was over 33½, and the per cent. on the entire captures about 19¾. The number of captures by the Union forces was 476,169; actually confined (the rest being paroled or exchanged), 327,570; per cent. of mortality in prison, 13¾; per cent. of mortality of whole number of captures, 9½. Thus the mortality in rebel prisons was about three times as great as that in Union prisons. Mr. Goss also quotes the official report of the Confederate Inspector of Prisons, Lieutenant Colonel D. T. Chandler, who is favorably indorsed by the Confederate Assistant Secretary of War, to show that recommendations were actually made to Davis' Cabinet to replace General Winder. Commandant at Andersonville, with some one more humane, and the only notice ta

The Commercial.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1876.

IT BRINGS an open question which has the worst war record, TILDEN or HENDRICKS, they are about neck and neck in the race for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

THE efforts which some papers are making to influence the jury in the BABCOCK case against the defendant, deserve the indignant reprobation of every fair minded man.

A FACT of considerable significance is that many business men throughout the country, without political distinction, are signing petitions for the repeal of the Resumption act.

THE principal author of the new tariff bill is an Irish writer on the staff of the free trade New York *World*, principally distinguished for his long red hair and extensive ignorance of political economy.

ONE of the members of the Ohio Legislature is credited with the statement that JERRY BLACK "is the most available candidate for the Democracy." He would look so nice, wouldn't he, with the sacred Constitution, minus the later amendments, sticking out of his coat-tail pocket, and his hat crammed with CHORPENNING claims?

UNTIL yesterday Queen VICTORIA had not opened Parliament in person since 1871. That body was then in its third year, and this is the third year of the present Legislature. It is a rule of royal etiquette in England, that the sovereign should personally confront Parliament at least once in its life time.

THE Democrats are afraid to let the people know what they are doing. The various House investigation committees sit with closed doors, and with the imposition of the utmost secrecy on the members. This is as cowardly as it is unjust. The most important committees of the House sat last Congress with open doors.

THE St. Louis *Journal's* experiment of transforming itself from an afternoon into a morning paper has been attended with gratifying results. The *Journal* is one of the soundest Republican papers in the West; bright and bold in its utterances, enterprising in its collection of news, and in every respect deserving of its steady advance in popularity and prosperity.

"THAT speech of Hill's would seem to have developed the existence of a greater number of asses than this country was previously supposed to contain."—*Courier-Journal*.

This, indeed, is true inwardness. The speech was instinct with falsehood, treason and defiance, and the *Courier-Journal* said there was no doubt that its sentiments were those of a great majority of the Southern people.

"WHILE Grant is on the stand won't he please tell us why he appointed Attorney General Williams Chief Justice of the United States. Was it for whisky or a woman?"—*Post*.

The foul insinuation embodied in the above will meet only with loathing and contempt. There is no worse baseness under the sun than to put a vile construction on any act in which a clean motive is reasonable.

THE discovery of large deposits of a superior quality of anthracite coal in the Adirondacks region is reported, as also of extensive beds of iron and copper ore. The development of these mines cannot fail to be of immense benefit to the business interests of Northern New York. The Plattsburg *Republican* says:

This is the most important piece of news which has been published in Northern New York during the last half century, for it will result in bringing this section to the very front rank as an iron manufacturing district.

THE foreign commerce of New York, last week, was: Merchandise imports, $6,756,290; produce exports, $5,098,396, and specie exports $387,746. The total imports since January 1, this year were $34,274,836, against $31,764,632 for the corresponding period in 1875, and $33,575,229 in 1874. The total exports of produce since the beginning of the year were $24,940,737, against $22,423,475 in 1875, and $25,163,686 in 1874, and the total exports of specie during the same period were $2,363,836, against $11,072,317 in 1875, and $3,195,190 in 1874.

IT GOES sadly against Russia's grain to be compelled to admit that her breadstuff producing regions have been completely outstripped in the competitive race with the United States. The latest statistics show that while nine years ago, forty-four per cent. of the grain exported to England came from RUSSIA and only fourteen per cent. from America, now forty-four per cent. is received from us and but twenty-one per cent. from Russia. The Odessa merchants are fearful that matters will be still worse in the future, and are reported as being "lost in painful thought when considering the quantity of corn America will soon be enabled to export."

A FINE example of financial honor is afforded by the course of the great London banking house of BARING, with reference to its indorsement of the bonds of the Eastern Railroad of Massachusetts. The firm have just issued a circular, in which they say:

"Having shared the general confidence reposed in the company and its management to the extent of specially recommending the sterling bonds as an investment to many persons, they think it right that interest bonds provided for at the meeting at Boston on the 15th of January, and pay fill interest on the $800,000 bonds issued by them as usual."

There is a good deal of impregnable integrity left upon the earth.

THEY have got his Satanic Majesty before the bar of a committee of the English Privy Council, consisting of the Lord Chancellor, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, Lord Penzance, of the Ecclesiastical Court, and five eminent lay judges. The question at issue is whether a member of the Church of England, who does not believe in the devil or eternal punishment, can be turned away from the communion table or not. A lower court had previously decided that "the avowed and persistent denial of the existence and personality of the devil" constituted "an evil liver," and the case has been taken up on appeal. Decision has not yet been rendered, but it looks somewhat as though the devil would be dismissed, with costs.

THE rebel records themselves conclusively show that JEFF. DAVIS knew well what he was doing when he sent to Andersonville the wretch who had excited the disgust of even Confederate officers while he was carrying on his cruel and cowardly warfare against helpless prisoners in Richmond; and the *Post*, in undertaking to pit against ex-Speaker BLAINE the perjured leader of an unsuccessful effort to destroy the country, who now employs his liberty to characterize the officers and soldiers of the United States as "invaders," and impertinently to criticise the methods by which they had put down the rebellion, will presently discover that it has assumed a burden likely to prove of a very grievous character. And so will the party of which that paper is an organ.

THE United States Circuit Court of Illinois, in a test suit recently brought by the national banks of that city to restrain the city from collecting taxes for last year on the stock of those banks, on the ground that the General Revenue law of 1872 is in conflict with the State Constitution of Illinois and the act of Congress in relation to national banks; and that, even if this were not true, the act of Congress related only to taxation of the shares by the States for State and county purposes, and that the Legislature of the State could not grant to cities the power to tax the shares in national banks for city purposes, has just decided that the law is not in conflict either with the State Constitution or the act of Congress; and that, if the taxes are not paid, the City Collector may lawfully levy on and sell the shares or any other personal property of the shareholders.

THE results of General BABCOCK'S trial bid fair to be exceedingly important. We do not believe the current rumor concerning the President's alleged intense resentment against the Secretary of the Treasury, nor credit the report that the latter is proceeding against the White House from personal motives. There is no doubt, however, that there is an effort making by a number of politicians to induce the President to direct the Attorney General to assume the exclusive control of all whisky cases, for the purpose of creating trouble and confusion. They should not, however, be permitted to succeed. We heartily trust the unshaken confidence which the President has from the beginning had in the innocence of General BABCOCK may be justified by the event, but we are not prepared to believe that he is the victim of a conspiracy. And, if he is righteously convicted, he will deserve punishment infinitely more than the vulgar adventurers with whom in his arraignment he is associated. Let no innocent man suffer, nor any guilty man escape.

THE Texas Pacific Railroad bill, it is expected, will be reported to the House today. The Washington correspondent of the New York *Times* thinks it certain that Col. *Scott* will be able to push the measure to a square vote in that body, but regards its passage as very doubtful. It is to be hoped his expectations may prove unfounded. The company simply asks the Government to guarantee five per cent. interest on so many of its first mortgage bonds as may necessarily be required under Government inspection, in building the road, not exceeding one thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars per mile on constructed road, to be paid yearly by the company from the business of the road or the sale of lands. As the Union and Central Pacific Railroads, running through alkaline deserts and annual snows, now earn eleven thousand dollars per mile, the Southern Pacific, with better grades, better climate and better country, may surely reasonably be expected to earn one-half that amount, but even with less it would be amply able to meet its interest. Yet to secure this loan of credit the company offers to place in the hands of the Government the entire earnings for military and other transportation for the Government, all telegraph and postal service of the Government, the revenues of lands heretofore granted by the Government to the company, together with all other net revenues from all other sources. The indemnification of the Government against any call for this yearly interest would seem to be perfectly ample; and the yearly amount, to be paid from earnings, is surely not large. Moreover, a good guarantor known in a foreign market, enables the holder of securities to make favorable negotiations. With such guaranty the bonds can be sold at par. The road can thus be speedily and cheaply built, and the interests of the public as well as those of the corporation conserved. Cheaply constructed lines mean cheap freights, and the Southern line once constructed by money cheaply obtained, no competing line will ever again think of advancing its rates on the public fifty and one hundred per cent., as the Union Pacific Company did last spring because of success for a time in preventing a rival from completing a parallel path across the continent. A correspondent of the New York *Post*, writing on the subject, answers the objections of the opponents of the bill in this ample wise:

Look, they say, at the total. If nothing is paid during any year for forty years it will amount to $234,720,000!" That mode of treating the question reminds one of the farmer boy's mode of disposing of the question of dressing. He is said to have counted the number of buttons on his clothing, estimated the number of times he must button and unbutton them during a probable life-time, and without going into the question of what he might earn if he only kept himself dressed, he became appalled by the total of the buttoning, and solved the problem by committing suicide. The course of the opposition is about as wise. They would not have the Government of the people guarantee the payment of an interest charge, on account of which it may never be called upon to respond to the extent of a single dollar; but they are willing to permit a condition of things to remain that allows the present monopoly of the Union Pacific Railroad certainly to charge the people, as it is now doing in its advanced rates on freights, a yearly sum far greater, and which in forty years will amount to at least $240,000,000. It is simply the folly of a certain and constant loss of millions of dollars, instead of a contingency where there may be a saving of those millions, and the loss cannot possibly be as great.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Massachusetts has an insane horse. Georgia has an insane ass.

Sauerkraut is the last explosive. A barrel of it went off, the other day.

St. Louis has a dime lecture course, the tickets to which are twenty cents.

Jeff. Davis is one of those whose consciences were lost with their causes.

The *Memphis Avalanche* says Jeff. Davis is a historical character. So is the devil.

It is now suggested that the children in the public schools should be drilled for panics.

An English clergyman, who has mistaken his calling, says all editors are liars.

The New York *Witness* is moribund. It was a weak journal backed with good intentions.

A Mormon missionary is about to begin operations in Boston. Now we shall see whether the girls feel hubby.

A new disease, termed by the physicians diphtheria croup, is proving very fatal to numbers of people out West.

Monetary piles. In Philadelphia last year, $3,003,418 were spent for labor and material on the new public buildings.

In New York city it is proposed to have first and second class street cars. This, it is claimed, will prevent "packing."

"Riding on a rail." Only one railroad passenger in 7,000,000 is killed a year, and one in 1,000,000 receives any injury from railroad accidents.

Rotterdam is a town of 125,000 inhabitants, and has fifteen churches and forty-two distilleries, to say nothing of breweries, or Winslow.

The latest reports from the pork packing districts show that very little business is being done at present at interior points. Lard will be short, this year.

The Congregational churches and preachers invited to partake of Plymouth Church's coming feast of filth don't seem particularly inclined to soil themselves.

A bill to forbid Territorial counties, cities, and towns to incur indebtedness in aid of railroad companies or other private corporations has been introduced in Congress.

Winslow deserves punishment not so much for his forgery as for his assuming the lamb-like garb of a journalist, and thus disgracing an innocent and harmless fraternity.

It will be two hundred years on the 21st of this month since the town of Medfield, Mass., was burnt by King Philip, and arrangements have been made to bicentennniate it.

Western men say that the wanton destruction of buffaloes on the plains makes imperatively necessary some instant measure for protecting these animals from annihilation.

In Canada, as here, there seems to be quite a desire for a general school law, applicable to the whole Dominion, and it is the intention to bring the subject before Parliament.

A correspondent of the New Orleans *Times* states that there are at present residing in the province of Sao Paulo, Brazil, six hundred American immigrants, who are doing well.

The Delaware peach growers are cutting down the inferior varieties of their trees, and, learning a lesson from last season, they will dry or can the poorer quality of fruit.

The New York book trade suffers terribly from the financial squeeze, and the English publishers that have agencies there without exception complain of loss on last year's transactions.

The Wisconsin State Historical Society has added to its cabinet "a set of cards of the three-card monte game by which a passenger on the Union Pacific Railroad lost $1,500." Was he a member?

The new route from Philadelphia to New York via the Central Railroad of New Jersey, the Delaware and Bound Brook, and North Pennsylvania roads will be opened with through cars on the first of April.

John M. Francis, of the Troy *Times*, now making a tour of the world, thinks the heathen of India are not half so badly in need of salvation as the heathen of America, and the remark is worth thinking about.

Hereafter an alien may declare his intention to become a citizen of the United States before the clerk of any Circuit, District, or Supreme Court of the Territories, or a court of record having common law jurisdiction.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company recently advertised that they would receive applications for the position of conductor, to be employed to the number of 150 during the Centennial season. They had 10,000 responses in ten days.

A very valuable manuscript has been discovered in the Azores, relating to the colonization, in the year 1500, of the northern part of America by emigrants from Oporto, Aveiro and the Island of Terceira. Its publication is expected to shed great light on the disputed question of the early discovery of America.

"SOME DAY."

How much of sweet truth and trust is expressed in these few pretty lines:

"Some day," we say, and turn our eyes
Toward the far hills of paradise.

Some day, some time, a sweet, new rest
Shall blossom, flower-like, in each breast.

Some time, some day, our eyes shall see
The faces kept in memory.

Some day their hands shall clasp our hands
Just over in the Morning Lands.

Some day our ears shall hear the song
Of triumph over sin and wrong.

Some day, some time, but oh! not yet,
But we will wait and not forget.

That some day all these things shall be,
And rest be given to you and me.

So wait, my friend, though years move slow,
The happy time will come, we know.

STATE NEWS.

Alfred Sanderson has bought the Reading *Sunday News*.

W. F. Pardoe, of Sullivan county, has eighty-one cousins.

Mrs. Henry F. Benedict died in Lancaster, on Monday, of apoplexy.

Henry G. Thunder, a Philadelphia organist, is said to be a lightning good player.

A case was suddenly terminated in Lancaster on Saturday by the serious illness of the wife of a juror.

The *Saturday Evening Review*, a new journalistic venture, will appear in Reading in a few weeks.

Lock Haven had forty-nine fires and alarms, last year. The total loss was $11,661, and the insurance $9,961.

Within a week Henry Herr, of Mount Joy, Lancaster county, has lost an adopted daughter, his only little son and a brother.

The Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association at Scranton is being investigated, serious charges having been made against him.

Wm. S. Ritter, Esq., of the Reading *Adler*, will erect a large printing house during the coming summer at the southeast corner of Sixth and Court streets.

On Thursday last Geo. Coryell, of North Coventry, died at his residence from lock jaw induced from a cold. He hadn't eaten any food the last twelve days of his life.

The total expenditures of Clinton county last year were $38,268 41; total receipts, $37,042 26; total liabilities, $93,616 26; total assets, $69,922 89; excess of liabilities, $23,693 37.

The Pottsgrove, Montgomery county, School Board is engaged in discussing whether the boys shall be permitted to chew tobacco in school and pre-empt the floor as a cuspidor.

On Wednesday morning of last week the first down passenger train over the Lehigh and Susquehanna Railroad came near running into a barn that had been blown across the track just above Bethlehem.

Franklin Mengel, of Leesport, Berks county, has lost four children by diphtheria since the 19th of January last. Two were buried on Monday. The ages of the children were two, four, seven and nine, respectively.

A high-backed, leather-cushioned chair used years ago in the Legislature, and by Gov. J. Andrew Schultze in 1817, has been sent from Harrisburg to Independence Hall, Philadelphia, to be placed in the relic department.

A solid limestone cave has been recently discovered near Eschbach's crossing, in Montgomery county, with several chambers eight feet wide and six feet high. At a distance of seventy-two feet from the entrance of the cave is a lake.

Mrs. Banks, of Cromwell township, Huntingdon county, was badly burned recently by her clothes accidentally taking fire from a kitchen stove. She lingered in great agony until three or four days after the sad occurrence, when death came to her relief.

George Lynd has been convicted in Chester county of stealing twenty-six cattle in Lancaster county. This coward, who tried to run away when detected in his larceny work, will no doubt hereafter steer clear of such wholesale attempts at robbing the market.

The family of Lewis Neides, of Reading, is unlucky. The daughter fell off a chair and broke her arm in two places. Soon after Neides himself fell and fractured his ribs, and before he had recovered his son, aged ten years, fell and broke his arm at the elbow.

There were 335 deaths in Philadelphia, last week, against 353 the week previous. Of the whole number 172 were adults and 163 were children, 62 being under one year old; 103 died from diseases of the throat and lungs, 9 from cancer, 14 from convulsions, 10 from debility, 11 from diseases of the heart, 11 each from typhoid and scarlet fever, 13 from inflammation of the brain, 12 from old age, and 4 from small-pox.

Samuel Clark, of Mercer county, had a painful adventure recently. He dreamed eight men were in his room, four of whom he ejected. The remainder were too much for him, and he actually sprang out of the window head foremost and ran to the house of a neighbor, to whom he related his thrilling experience. The two went back to Clark's residence and found no intruders and his wife sound asleep. In the fall Clark was badly cut in the head and had a six inch gash in the thigh.

There appeared last week in the obituary columns of the Philadelphia *Ledger* notices of the death of sixteen persons, six men and ten women, who had lived to or beyond the advanced age of eighty years, to wit: Charles S. Folwell, aged 80; Bridget Langan, 80; George Morrison, 80; Martin Murphy, 80; Catharine Spearing, 80; Sarah Wright, 80; Margaret McCallister, 81; Eleanora Rovoudt, 81; Daniel P. Farley, 82; Lewis W. Ealer, 83; Joanna Wade, 85; Lydia Alexander, 86; Ann McGuigan, 88; Michael Seelman, 88; Jane Snodgrass, 89; Alice Bergan, 90.

A lady residing in Spring City, ascertained a few days ago, while riding in a street car in Philadelphia, that her little child, nine months old, was blind. The fact was discovered by a lady riding in the car, and was brought to the notice of the mother, which was the first intimation that she had of the fact, although it is the opinion of physicians that the child has been blind from its birth. None of the lady's neighbors who are in the habit of nursing it had made the discovery, although they can now remember that the child acted singularly and that it was never seen to smile or take notice of anything.

The Allentown *Chronicle* says: During the high wind storm on Wednesday morning, Mr. Michael Lilly, living about a mile and a half from Kleecknersville, in the direction of Chapman's slate quarry, met with an accident that resulted in his death. The wind had forced open a big barndoor, and he and his little grandson went out to the barn to fix the door which was swinging to and fro. Mr. Lilly had taken a pick to dig a hole in the ground, in which he intended to drive a stake to hold the door in position, when a heavy blast opened the door, which struck him violently on the head, knocking him down and killing him instantly.

Of the sixty thousand men and boys whom the great suspension in the anthracite coal regions will throw out of employment, about 17,000 are in the eastern districts of the Wyoming coal field, extending from Carbondale to Jenkins township below Pittston and including both those places. More than 23,000 men and boys will be thrown idle in the Schuylkill region, including the Pottsville, Shamokin and Ashland districts, and in the middle district of Luzerne and Carbon, embracing Wilkesbarre and Hazleton, and the southern district of Luzerne and Carbon, extending from Jenkins township through the remainder of the Wyoming Valley, over 20,000 men and boys.

There is a young man in the Towanda jail, who gives great promise, if his life is spared, of blossoming into a ring statesman. He has a wife. His wife has a small farm, and the times are hard. Out of these three things Mr. G.W. Cole brought greenbacks. First he compelled his wife to sign a note for $300. He then sold the note for $300, the purchaser giving his check for $200 and his note for $90, payable to the order of madame. Having forged his wife's name to this check he traded it off for $20 in clothing and another check for the balance, which put him in possession of $130 spare funds and a note for $90. With this start in the world he went West. His wife then appeared upon the scene and stopped payment on the check, alleging that her indorsement was forged. Mr. Cole's capacity for getting away was inferior to his financial ability. Unlike Mr. Tweed or Mr. Winslow he neither melted out of sight nor paid any regard to extradition treaties. He was pursued to Troy. The benouement will learn him in what direction his abilities need development and training.

A BERLIN correspondent of the *Tribune* writes: It may be of interest to Americans to know the sort of taxes which simple living here exacts of them. I will take Berlin as a specimen city. An American here in professional business and keeping house pays as personal taxes: 1, a municipal income tax; 2, a so-called *Klassensteuer*, a State tax from which the poorer people are exempt; 3, a *Gewerbesteuer* or professional tax or license; and 4, a rent tax, or six per cent. of the rent of the flat paid by him. The first tax is universal, and is extorted even from American students at the University. The second is paid by all Americans who are technically domiciled here. The third is imposed, of course, on Americans who are pursuing any calling recognized by the laws. The fourth is paid, not by persons who rent furnished lodgings, but only by those who rent an entire *Wohnung* or dwelling from the owner of a house. These imposts are light, neither singly nor in the aggregate. When all four are imposed the average aggregate to be paid will reach about $50 in every $1,000 of income, a fact which will give pause perhaps to many who look to ward Germany as the land of cheap living.

CONSULAR SINFULNESS.

A Suppressed Report Found After Many Years—Abuses in American Consulates.

[Special Correspondence of Chicago Times.]

WASHINGTON, February 6.—After considerable effort and patient investigation, the report of De B. Randolph Keim, a special agent of the United States for the examination of consular affairs during the years 1870, '71 and '72, has been found. This report, although printed in pamphlet form, has been practically suppressed. Its damaging relations constitute such a withering expose of the consular system of the United States as to make it to the interest of the Administration to keep its contents from the public. Mr. Keim was appointed by Secretary Boutwell under a special act of Congress, doubtless for his benefit, and which was regarded as a job at the time, but he seems to have taken his appointment in earnest, and endeavored, by a careful examination of nearly all consulates of the United States, to have earned the great expense that the Government was at in sending him upon his diplomatic mission. He began his travels in July, 1870, and conclued his labors in December, 1872. During this time he traveled 63,000 miles and visited

ALL PARTS OF THE CIVILIZED WORLD.

His reports came in with promptness, but they were evidently not appreciated by the Administration. Careful examination of his reports would give a clear insight into motives for its suppression. An epitome of his conclusions is stated in the following extracts from his reports: "I might expand my observations upon the irregularities, responsibilities and unaccountabilities of the present consular system in definite language. There is hardly a feature in it that does not indicate imbecility in point of executive affairs, humiliation in point of character, and mingled extravagance and penuriousness in point of practice. I do not consider myself in the least degree overstepping the bounds of decorum or of justice when I say this." He further says: "The officers, as a rule, at the time of my visit had been obliged to open their books anew or had had it done by a subordinate. Almost every consulate had some defects in its history, owing to the incompetency,

LOW HABITS AND VULGARITY

in some of its officers. During the endless round of changes incident to official rotation, abuses had been committed in the collection of fees, in the exercise of judicial powers, in the adjustment of business affairs of American citizens, in the settlement of estates of intestate American citizens, in selling American flags, in running out ships, in the discharge of seamen, in not affording relief and medical attendance to destitute or sick American seamen, in issuing legal papers to unaccountable shipmasters, and in taxing Chinese emigrants. Indeed, the most interesting feature of my investigations was the ingenuity displayed by the consular officers since the act of 1856, particularly, in defrauding the Government, and grasping gains from various outside sources. Besides, my report of May 22, 1872, is filled with instances which prove the truth of these remarks." He comments at great length upon the frightful abuses practiced by consular officers in granting relief to destitute American seamen in foreign ports. The numerous instances of peculation, perjuries and fraud in the use of this fund are enough to disgrace the civil service of any government in the world. He says that the natives are frequently hired at low rates to accept receipts and sign vouchers and that this practice is carried on in

A MOST UNABASHED MANNER.

Large sums have been charged and vouchers, explanations and affidavits have been heaped upon the department by the ream when the officers must have known that they were questionable. He animadverts with great severity upon the loose manner of keeping accounts in the department at Washington as well as by the Consuls themselves. Such a system, he says, must strike every one who contemplates it for a moment as a burlesque upon official accountability. The consul business, as an aid to our commerce with other powers, is in no way to be considered

FINANCE AND TRADE.

TUESDAY EVENING, February 8, 1876.

The condition of the Pittsburgh money market remains precisely as last reported —low rates rule on choice business paper and undoubted collaterals, and there is very little disposition on the part of lenders to meddle with anything of a doubtful nature. On saleable stocks money can be had at from 6 to 8 per cent.

Local investment bonds are feeling the influence of the increased supply of idle money and are rapidly advancing. All the Allegheny Valley Railroad bonds have moved up a point or two and sales are made freely at the advance. Pan Handle bonds are also sharing in the good feeling and have advanced to as high a figure as before the coupons were cut off. All this results from the fact that lenders are afraid to buy ordinary investments and are willing to take such as pay a smaller rate of interest but are undoubtedly safe.

This is the usual result of the want of confidence following commercial disorders and is by no means confined to our own experience. In England, after the panic of 1866, this reservoir was so full that money could be borrowed at 2 per cent. on call, while for time loans mercantile borrowers found it closed, for the simple reason that confidence was paralyzed and destroyed.

For a very similar reason it is that the recuperation has been so slow from the effects of the panic of 1873, in this country and abroad. Confidence has been shaken and it is still weak. There is an abundance of idle capital, but the owners of that capital have not the confidence to lend it, except in certain directions and on favorite terms. Thus, while banks and financial institutions in England and on the continent of Europe have more money on deposit than they can use, there is somewhere or other a fatal distrust among the owners of capital, which makes loans harder of negotiation which makes loans harder of negotiation in some directions and easier in others, while the greater number of men seem to prefer keeping their money in such a form that they can command and control it at short notice.

—Southern exchanges tell us that white workingmen and mechanics in the neighborhood of Atlanta have set on foot a scheme for protection against the competition of negro labor. They have made a covenant that they will not deal with those who employ cheap colored labor, nor will they support them for public office. The plan embraces also a determination to trade only with those who pay the highest wages to white men for services that the negroes will do more cheaply, and to rent houses built exclusively by white mechanics. To many a prejudice these model reformers are willing to pay money freely out of their pockets, under the mistaken notion that they are thereby bettering their condition. They forget that they are only adding to the cost of what they consume and to the house rentals they must pay. It can hardly be necessary to state that such a crude conspiracy against the general welfare must come to grief. Employers, as a rule, will employ the cheapest labor they can find, all other things being equal. The first instance is another specimen of the manner in which the average workingman often cuts his nose off to spite his face.

—In Secretary Bristow's interview with the Committee on Ways and Means, he called attention to the fact that the quotations in the bond list were, 6's of 1881, 29 years bonds, 121½@123⅝ for the 6's, consols 1881, redeemable at the pleasure of the Government after five years, 119@119⅝; the currency 6's or Pacific Railroad bonds, thirty years, 121¾. He called attention to this in order to show that a long rate bond was the most popular: that the currency 6's brought more than the 5-20's, which are redeemable in gold. From data of this kind he argued that the larger the issue of bonds, and the longer time they had to run, the more popular they would become. If a small loan was placed on the market in a short time and it did not become generally known. Therefore he asked Congress to authorize the extension of the four and half per cent loans that fall due from $500,000,000 and the lengthening of the time they had to run to thirty years. This he said would enable him to place that loan on the market as fast as they could handle the bonds at the Treasury. It was supposed by some that he would ask for an increase of the rate of interest, but he did not. He was satisfied with the rate. To negotiate $60,000,000 of four and half per cent bonds and retire the same amount of 6's would make a difference of $30,000,000 a year saving in interest, and he wanted to commence it as soon as possible. It may be assumed as almost a certainty that the committee will report in favor of his proposition, and that both Houses of Congress will pass it without much discussion. The increase will be taken from the four's, and the amount of bonds left from the funding loan of 1958 will be therefore $60,000,000 four and half and 500,000,000 fours—all thirty year bonds.

—Col. Scott is making good progress in his grand Southern Pacific Railroad scheme. In pushing its claims before the committee at Washington, he has precedent on his side, whilst it cannot be denied, even by the most rabid opponent of Government subsidies, that the business interests of the country call for its completion, either by the aid of the National Government or with out it. One giant railroad monopoly has been already created by Congressional aid, and it has been so conducted as to rob the people wholesale, instead of serving them. It is not surprising that the managers of this corporation should make such efforts as they are doing to defeat the new project, for its success accomplished they will be compelled to treat the public with fairness, or yield to the inevitable. The completion of the great Southern route will be a boon to the entire country, and under the safeguards and restrictions suggested by Mr. Scott, the National Government cannot possibly suffer loss. As a means of reviving the iron trade and other industries, and thereby giving the demand for labor, the importance of this project cannot be over-estimated. There seems to be a good prospect of its being successfully reported by the committee, and we are heartily glad to note its progress in public favor.

The House sub-committee on the Texas Pacific Railroad bill have agreed, with only one dissenting vote, to report in favor of the bill as recommended by Col. T. A. Scott. There is no doubt that the whole committee will concur in the report.

OFFICE OF TRASK & STONE,
BANKERS AND BROKERS, No. 7 NEW STREET,
NEW YORK, February 7, 1876.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The stock market has been fairly active during the day, and after the second call there has been a decided recovery in prices. New York Central has been conspicuous for its advance to 114, and it is noticeable that no conspicuous buying has advanced the price. Western Union was very dull early in the day, but recovered from the close on the announcement of the Gould clique, but we are not prepared to give the objective point for these purchases; but the crowd, party or crowded will be long of their buyers.

Pacific Mail has recovered from its extreme depression, and closed firm at 25¾@26.

Lake Shore has been in good demand all day, and it looks as if quotations would be carried higher to-morrow.

The disposition of the street is now in favor of higher prices; but from the operations of the various cliques, we believe that at any material advance they will arrange to realize and unload, and for the present we advise sales at every advance.

Money rumains easy at 4@5 per cent. on call.

Yours truly,
TRASK & STONE.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

February 8, 1876.	10:30	11:30	12:30	2:30	3:00
	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Gold	112¾	112¾	112¾	113	112¾
U. S. 1881, coup.	122¾	122¾	...	...	122¾
5-20's, 1865, reg.	119	119¼	...	...	...
5-20's, 1865, new	119	119¼	...	...	...
5-20's, 1867, registered	119¾	120	...	...	...
5-20's, 1867	121¾	121¾	...	...	...
10-40's, registered	118	118¼	...	...	...
10-40's, coupon	118¾	118¾	...	...	...
Currency 6's	123¼	123¼	...	...	...
New 4½'s	109¾	109¾	...	...	...
Western Union Tel.	78	77¾	77¾	77¾	77¾
Quicksilver	42½	42½	...	...	...
Pacific Mail	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾
Panama	130	...	...	...	...
Atlantic Express	100	...	...	...	...
Wells, Fargo Express	87½	...	87	87½	...
American Express	60	...	60	...	...
United States Express	50½	...	60½	...	...
New York Central	114	...	114	...	...
Erie	17¾	...	17¾	...	...
Michigan Central	91½	...	91½	91½	91½
Michigan Southern	97	...	96¾	96¾	96¾
Illinois Central	97½	...	97½	98	98
Cleveland & Pittsburg	93	...	...	...	...
Chicago & Northwestern	27½	27	27	27	27¼
Do. preferred	64	...	...	...	64
Rock Island	109¾	109¾	...	...	109¾
St. Paul common	36	...	...	...	36
Do. preferred	77¾	78	...	...	77¾
Wabash common	6¾	6¾	...	...	6¾
Fort Wayne	101	...	...	...	101
Ohio and Mississippi	21½	...	...	...	21½
Union Pacific	64	...	...	...	64
Marin Coal	140	...	140	...	...
New Jersey Central	...	...	114	...	...
Hannibal & St. Joe	29	...	...	...	29¼
Atlantic & Pac. pref.	...	...	...	...	...
Iron Mountain	22	...	21¾	...	...
C., C. & I. Coal	...	...	35	...	...
Missouri Pacific	124	...	124	...	124
Kansas Pacific	14	...	14	...	13¾
South Carolinas, Ap.	...	...	37½	...	...
South Carolinas, Jan.	...	...	37	...	...
Missouri 6's	102	...	...	...	...

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central	...	...	55
Reading	...	...	31¾
United Co.'s of N. J.	140	...	...
Oil Creek	...	...	18½
Lehigh Valley	...	...	63½
Allegheny Valley	37	...	...
Kansas Pacific	13¾	...	...
P. & F. St. L. m. b.	81	...	...
Northern Pacific bonds	...	...	22½

[By Associated Press.]
Gold Closed at 112¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, February 8.—Money easy at 4@5 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 6@8 per cent. Customs receipts $539,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $315,000. Clearings $17,000,000. Produce exports for the week $4,358,000. Sterling firm; 486 for long and 488¼ for demand.

GOLD.

Gold opened and closed at 112¾, with sales in the interim at 113. Carrying rates 2 to 5½ per cent.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds strong; in some cases there is a difference of from ½ to ½ per cent. between bidding and asking prices. Railroad bonds strong and higher with Northwestern stocks steady. The stock market opened firm, but shortly became weak and prices declined from ¼ to 1½ per cent. in the general list. Toward one o'clock the market became strong and a recovery took place in some cases. In the last hour of business speculative shares declined from ¼ to ⅝ per cent., and prices at the close were nearly the lowest of the day. Illinois Central was exceptionally firm, and express stocks closed strong at a further advance. Transactions aggregate 147,000 shares, of which 10,000 were Pacific Mail, 42,000 Western Union, 13,000 Northwestern, 9,000 Rock Island, 14,000 St. Paul, 9,000 Lake Shore and 16,000 Ohio and Mississippi. The following are the closing quotations:

STOCKS.		STOCKS.	
W. U. Telegraph	77¾	Rock Island	109¾
Quicksilver	42½	St. Paul	36¼
Do. preferred	78	Do. preferred	77¾
Pacific Mail	25¾	Toledo & Wabash	6¾
Mariposa	8¾	Do preferred	9¾
Fort Wayne	101	Terre Haute	6¾
Wells, Fargo Ex.	87½	Do. preferred	22¾
American Ex.	60	Chicago & Alton	90
U. S. Express	60½	Do. preferred	100
New York Central	114	Ohio & Mississippi	21½
Erie	17¾	Burling'n & Quincy	119½
Do. preferred	35	Hannibal & St. Joe	29¾
Harlem	137	Delaware & Lack.	118½
Do. preferred	131	Atlantic & P. Tel.	29¾
Mich. Central	92¼	Do. preferred	57½
Panama	130	Missouri Pacific	124
Lake Shore	96¾	Indiana Central	19½
Illinois Central	98¼	Union Pacific stock	63¾
Cleve. & Pitts	93¾	Cent. Pac. bonds	104½
North western	43¾	Union Pac. bonds	104½
Do. preferred	64	Do. land grants	104½
Indiana Central	55	Do. sink'g fund	95¼
N. Y. Central	109¾		

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	122¾	U. S. 1868	123¾
5-20's, 1865	117¾	New 5's	117¾
5-20's, 1865, new	119¾	10-40's coupons	119¾
5-20's, 1867	120¾	Currency 6's	125¾

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	45¾	N. Carolinas, new	9
Tennessee, new	44	S. Carolinas, old	37
Virginia, old	38	S. Carolinas, new	37
Virginia, new	38	Missouri 6's	102¾
N. Carolinas, old	37		

LONDON, February 8, 5 P. M.—The amount of bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance to-day was £184,000. Consols for money 93 3-16; for account 94 5-16. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 103⅝; do 1867, 105¾; 10-40's, 103½; new 5's, 106. Railroad securities —New York Central 101; Erie 15¾; do preferred 32.

PARIS, February 8.—Rentes 67 francs 35¾ centimes.

FRANKFORT, February 8.—United States bonds —New 5's 103½.

NEW ORLEANS, February 8.—Gold 113¾. Sight par. Sterling—Bank 500@504.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
TUESDAY, February 8, 1876. }

The general markets continue to drag along slowly, presenting nothing very new or important. Dealers generally are exercising considerable caution in making their purchases. The demand was principally local. The improvement in long expected fails to put in an appearance. In regard to the leading articles we have but few changes to note. Grain—The market continues somewhat unsettled for wheat; there was a fair inquiry for choice grades; other descriptions attracted but little attention. The mills are in receipt of the lion's share of wheat. Prices are without change. Flour was in fair demand. The supply was equal to the demand. The mills are manufacturing a very superior article, one that does them credit. Bacon—The market was firm, with a good demand. Prices are stiffening up here and in the West.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last:

Flour, bbls	1,977	Corn, bus	1,753
Wheat, bus	1,445	Barley, bus	450
Oats, bus	4,548	Butter, pkgs	42
Bacon, pcs	1,115	Bacon, tcs	29
Hay, bales	640		

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The market was a quiet one with a restricted demand for most descriptions. The supply was fair, being about equal to the demand. So far as prices are concerned we have but few to note. The following are the current rates: Wheat—Michigan white bd 1 30@1 32; Ohio amber bd 1 28@1 33; the latter for strictly prime quality: Northwestern red $1 28@1 40; low grades are dull and neglected at $1 20@1 27; rejected 90c@$1 10, as to quality. Corn is quiet, with light receipts at former prices. We quote new in bulk 51@52c for ear; 54@55c for yellow; new at 50c for mixed; 50@52c for choice yellow; old shelled in elevator is held at 63@65c. Oats were steady at about former quotations. We quote mixed Pennsylvania and Ohio at 40@41c white 42@43c; Western white 43@44c. Barley—Not much doing; Canada is held at $1 30@1 35 per bushel; choice spring at $1 18@1 22; common to prime $1 04@1 16; low grades nominal at 90c@$1 00. Rye quiet with a sale at 85c, held at 86c per bu-hel. Jobb.ng sales were made at the usual advance.

FLOUR—The receipts are coming in more freely, but not in sufficient quantities to produce any change in prices. The largest inquiry, as usual, was for the better grades. We quote as follows: From mills: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 75 ₱ bbl; No. amber do $7 25; red wheat flour $6 75@7 00; in sacks 25c off the above. The following prices of the leading dealers for standard brands of flours are steady as follows: Choice brands of winter wheat flour $7 75@8 00; well-known brands of family flour $7 00@7 25; Wisconsin spring is quoted at $6 50@6 75; fancy $6 75; fancy St. Louis $8 00@8 50; choice patents $8 50@9 00; red winter wheat flour is active at $6 00@6 25. Graham flour $4 50@5 75; self-rising flour, in 6 ₱ packages, $4 25 ₱ bbl. Buckwheat meal $3 50 ₱ bbl. Rye flour $5 00@5 25 ₱ bbl. Buckwheat flour 2½@2¾c ₱ ₱.

HAY—The supply keeps pace with the demand; prices have been nominally firm for some time. We quote loose from wagon $17 00@22 00, per ton as per quality and condition. We note sales of timothy at $12 00@14 00 per ton; timothy $17 50@19 00 as per quality.

MILL FEED—With a falling off in the receipts prices have stiffened all round with an increased demand, bran being held at $15 00@16 00 ₱ ton; shorts and screenings $16 00@17 00; middlings and chopped feed $20 00@21 00. Oil meal $40 00@43 00 ₱ ton.

SEEDS—The market was not very active. The current rates are: Seeds ash, common, 3@3½c; refined do 3¾@4c; nitric ac; pearl 7½c; potash 7c; manganese 6½c; arsenic 5@5½c; flour spar 2@2½c ₱ ₱.

Provisions.

The market was decidedly firmer with a good demand. Prices in the West are advancing. The present rates are as follows:

Hams, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ₱	14½	Lard, Prime Leaf in ½ bbls., ₱ ₱	14
Shoulders, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ₱	10½	Lard, Prime Leaf in 50 lb cans, ₱ ₱	14½
Hams, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ₱	15	Lard, Refined in 3 lb cans, ₱ ₱	16½
Hams, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ₱	15½	Lard, Refined in 5 lb caddies, ₱ ₱	16½
Dried Beef, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ₱	15½	Lard, Refined in 3 lb pails, ₱ ₱	17
Dried Beef, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ₱	16	Lard, Refined in 5 lb pails, ₱ ₱	16½
Bacon, Short Rib Sides, ₱ ₱	13	Lard, Refined in 6 lb pails, ₱ ₱	16½
Bacon, Clear Rib Sides, ₱ ₱	13½	Lard Oil, Extra Winter Strained, ₱ gal	1 08
Mess Pork, ₱ bbl	00	Lard Oil, Miners' Winter Strained, ₱ gal	67
Mess Pork, about 25 pieces in bbl., ₱ bbl	21 75	Carbon Oil, Standard White, ₱ gal	12½
Short Cut Mess Pork, about 45 pieces in bbl., ₱ bbl	21 75	Cheese, Prime New York	14
Pigs' Feet, ½ ₱ bbl	2 00	Goshen, ₱ ₱	14
Pigs' Feet, kegs, ₱ ₱	3 00	Pigs' Feet, kits, ₱ ₱	1 00
Lard, Prime, in tierces, ₱ ₱	13¾	Pigs' Feet, ½ bbls	9 10

DRESSED HOGS—The season is drawing to a close. Prices somewhat easier. We quote nominally 7¾@8¼c ₱ ₱.

TALLOW—The market was weak with a decline in prices. We quote country at 8@8½c; city rendered 8¾@9c.

HIDES—Market steady. We note sales in a regular way at 36 for good washed.

SEEDS—We have to report a quiet market. An improvement is looked for before long. We quote nominally timothy $2 75@3 00 ₱ bushel; clover $5 50@5 75.

VINEGAR—Market well supplied. We quote country stock 15@20c ₱ gallon; best city make (No. 1) at 25c ₱ gallon with pay for barrels.

Groceries.

The demand was only a moderate one; buyers are evidently holding off. The supply on the market is considered ample. The present rates are:

Green Coffees.	₱ ₱.	*Sugars.*	₱ ₱.
Fancy Rio	25 c	Standard A	10¾c
Choice Rio	24 c	Granulated	10¾c
Good Rio	23 c	Extra C	9¾@9¾c
Ordinary Rio	21 c	C—yellow	9¼@9¾c
Java	33 c	Crushed	11¾c
Roasted Coffees.		Powdered	11¾c
Rio, in papers	27 c	Granulated	11¾c
Java, in papers	34 c	Good fair N. O	8 c
Java, in bulk	33¾c	Prime do	9¼c
Teas.		Choice do	9¾c
Young Hyson	60@1 00	Choice fair do	9 c
Gunpowder	80@1 10	White clarified	10 c
Imperial	50@90	*Molasses.*	₱ gall.
Japan	30@60	Str'y-ch. N. O.	55@56c
Oolong	50@80	Prime do	55@58c
Fancy	1 00	Good do	50c
Sonchong	75		
Starch.	₱ ₱	Ex. white drips	7½c
Pearl	4½@4¾c	Sugar drips	6½c
Silver gloss	9½c	Lower grades	5½@5½c
Corn	10½c	*Spices.*	
Rice.		Cloves	60 c
Choice Carolina	7¼@8 c	Allspice	18@19 c
Patna	6 c	Cassia	33@35 c
Rangoon	6 c	Nutmegs	85 c
Louisiana	7 c	Pepper	22 c

Soaps.

Brl-arth, in kegs	5 c	Irish soap, ₱ box	$1 25
Brl-arth, in ½ boxes	5½ c	S. S. Star, ₱ box	5 c
Brl-arth, in 5 papers	7 c	Babbitt's best, box	6 25
Common	3½ c	Co. J. Dyer's, ₱ box	6 25
Star, full weight	8 c	Dr. N. Y. City, ₱ box	5 c
Stearine	15 c	German mottled	10¾c
Mould	11@12 c		

TOBACCOS—A moderate movement continues to characterize this line of trade, and no quotable change in values. We quote as follows:

Manufactured—		*Six Twist*	43@55c
Spun roll	60@75c	Smoking—Granulated	50@75c
Black Navy	55@65c	*Leaf Tobacco—*	
Black Twist	57@65c	Western leaf—	
Louisville Navy	53@65c	Wrappers	15@20c
Louisville Cav	60@70c	West'n leaf—lugs	9@12c
Virginia Navy	58@65c	Ohio seed wrap'rs	18@25c
Virginia Twist	58@65c	Connecticut seed wrap'rs (choice)	30@42c
Virginia Cav	60@65c	Conn. filler	12@15c
Plounders	65@75c	wrapper	50@70c
Bright sponge	65@75c	Conn. filler	12@15c
Black Quarters	57@60c	Havana wrap'rs	125@250
Rough & Ready	65@75c	Havana fillers	60@1 25
Fine Cut plugs	70@80c	*Cigars—*	
Fine Cut	55@60c	Pcan'k. seed	35@ 39
Cut and Dry	33@42c	Connecticut	25@ 30
Scotch Snuff	65@75c	Seed & Havana	30@ 36
Black Snuff	60@65c	Havana	40@150

CANNED GOODS—Are in moderate demand so far as prices are concerned. We have no quotable change to note. Tomatoes, 3-lb cans, ₱ doz, 85 @90c; peaches, 3-lb cans, ₱ doz, $2 25@2 50; corn, 2-lb cans, ₱ doz, $2 25; Lima beans, 2-lb cans $2 25; string beans, 2-lb cans, $2; cherries, 2-lb cans $2 25@2 50; blackberries, 2-lb cans $2 25; strawberries, 2-lb cans $2 00; raspberries, 2-lb cans $2 25; asparagus, 2½-lb cans $2 75; pineapples, 2-lb cans $2 00; pears, 2-lb cans $2 25; pitt pickles, $1 35; quart do $2 25; half gallon do $3 75; gallon pickles, ₱ doz, $5 50; bbls containing 1,200 pickles, $8 25; hf-bbls containing 600 pickles, $4 75.

FOREIGN FRUITS—There is a fairly active business at unchanged prices. We quote as follows —Layers, new ₱ box, $2 25; London layers do $4 50; Valentias, new, 11½@12c ₱ ₱; Sultanas 18c. Dates 8½@9c ₱ ₱. Currants 6@7c. Citrons 35c. Prunes 7½@8½c. Almonds—Languedoc 25c; shellelled 38c; do Princess 37c; do Jordan 50c; do Ivica 25c. Walnuts—Naples 20c; Marbot 18c; Sicily filberts 15c. Smyrna figs 18@20c. Brazil nuts 16c. Macaroni 15@18c. Tapioca 10c. Lemons—Messina, ₱ box, $7 00. Cocoanuts $7 00 per hundred.

Petroleum.

February 9.—The market in the oil regions opened quiet and weak at the following figures: Conduit and United 97½c; Union $1 00½. It has been marked during the whole day by uninterrupted dulness and decline. At noon the quotations were: Conduit and United $2 05; Union $2 03¾. During the afternoon it declined to $2 00 for Conduit and United; $1 97½ for Union. Yesterday, as for the past few days, United ruled with Conduit and above Union. The impression seems to be gaining ground that certain large interests are making a concerted effort to "bear;" this, with the disposition lately manifested by the principal banks in the oil regions to preserve a more conservative course with the brokers, seems to be the chief causes for the decline, as no change has taken place in the prospects for production, and it is quite probable that the demand for consumption will not materially fall off. Sales and resales 108,000 barrels.

REFINED—The market continues quiet with a limited demand. We quote nominally from on cars at 11@11¼c. We have seldom noticed less inclination to operate.

NEW YORK—Market reported quiet and weak, buyers generally holding off. Refined is quoted at 12½c.

Philadelphia—Prices are lower, being quoted at 10¾c for standard white.

Baltimore—Market quiet; held at 11¼c.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

TITUSVILLE, February 8.—The *Courier* says: There was a material drop in the market to-day for petroleum, as compared with the ruling figures of the past week. United opened at $2 12½, sold and declined to $2 07½, at which figure the rensactions were large; it then advanced 2½c and afterward declined to $2 07¼, closing at $2 07¼@2 08½; Conduit and United were quoted a fraction below United during the day; shipment closed at $2 07¼ asked, and Capt Prather $2 08@2 07½, with the market heavy and weak. Total sales 40,000 barrels.

NEW YORK, February 8.—Crude petroleum is a quiet market, exporters holding off, and prices about nominal. Crude in bulk 8½c for prompt; do in shipping order 11½c; refined 18½c; cases 19¼@21c; naptha 9¼@10c. At Baltimore refined is quoted 11¼c; at Philadelphia 10½c.

OIL CITY, February 8.—The *Derrick* says: Petroleum closed at $2 07½; shipment $2 20. Sales 60,000 bar els.

PHILADELPHIA, February 8.—Market quiet and steady; refined in bbls 10½c; cases 18½c; no sales and no future offering.

TITUSVILLE, February 8.—Market nominal at $2 07½@2 20.

ROUSEVILLE, February 8.—Market quiet and dull, with nothing doing; quoted at $2 25.

TIDIOUTE, February 8.—Market very quiet; sales yesterday at $2 30.

PARKERS, February 8.—Market quiet: United $2 07¼ bid: $2 08¾ asked; Union nominally $2 06 shipment nominally at 22¼@2 25.

OIL CITY, February 8.—Market quiet and weak at $2 05¾; more buyers than sellers; immediate shipment $2 22½@2 25.

[By Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, February 8.—Petroleum quiet and heavy; crude 8½@8¾c; refined 14¼@14¾c; cases 19@20c.

PHILADELPHIA, February 8.—Petroleum lower; crude in barrels 11¼@11½c; refined 16¼@16¾c.

BALTIMORE, February 8.—Petroleum strong; crude 9¾c; refined 14½c.

ANTWERP, February 8.—Refined petroleum 34 francs.

CLEVELAND, February 8.—Petroleum—Standard white, 110 degrees test 11¾c; State test 12½c; Michigan water test 10½c. Receipts

REFINED OIL SHIPPED EAST BY A. V. R. R.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
Lockhart & F.	Wagner & Co. Phila.	200
J T Stockdale	J T Tilford, Phila	200
Livingston Bros.	F G Francisous	52
Total		460

Drugs and Chemicals.

DRUGS—There has been a fair jobbing business in drugs since our last report. The following revised list of quotations is furnished by Harris & Ewing, wholesale druggists, Liberty street:

Acid.			
Acetic	12 @	18	
Citric	60 @	65	
Oxalic	17 @	20	
Sulphuric	3½ @	4	
Tartaric	50 @	60	
Muriatic, gal	2 @	3	
Aloes.			
Cape	16 @	20	
Socotrine	50 @	60	
Am Carb	20 @	25	
Ammonia.			
Muriate	20 @	30	
Anise.			
Seeds	8 @	8	
Water Copa	2 @	2	
Bayrum, gal	2 75 @	4 00	
Bark.			
Cassia	35 @	38	
Elm red	22 @	30	
" pale	20 @	25	
Sassafras	20 @	25	
Black Lead.			
American	8 @	8	
East Ind	11 @	12	
German	8 @	8	
Blue vitr	10½ @	11½	
Blue vitr, ₱	10½ @	11½	
Borax refd	14 @	15	
Brim refd	4 @	5	
Florentine	45 @	50	
Cayenne	40 @	45	
Flowers	1 @	1 25	
Camphor	60 @	65	
Camp ref	70 @	75	
Cantharides	1 75 @	2 00	
Chamomile	40 @	45	
Chen Germ	40 @	45	
" Roman	50 @	60	
Chloroform	75 @	80	
Cloves	40 @	60	
Cochineal	70 @	75	
Cobalt, ox	4 00 @	4 25	
Copperas	2 @	3	
Cream Tar	45 @	50	
Cubebs	40 @	45	
Cudbear	20 @	25	
Dextrine	12 @	15	
Epsom salts	3 @	4	
Ether Sulph	45 @	50	
Ether Nitric	45 @	50	
Ether Acetic	45 @	50	
Flake White	18 @	25	
Galls	25 @	30	
Glauber salts	3 @	4	
Glue, Cabinet	25 @	30	
" Common	15 @	20	
" Buffalo	25 @	30	
" Patent	30 @	35	
Glycerine	25 @	30	
Gum Arabic	90 @	1 00	
" Shellac	45 @	50	
" Tragacanth	1 00 @	1 25	
Hops	30 @	40	
Indigo	1 00 @	1 25	
Iodine	5 50 @	5 75	
Iodine resub	5 90 @	6 10	
Jalap	75 @	80	
Logwood, ₱	12½ @	15	
Madder, ₱	12½ @	14	
Madder, ₱	14 @	17	
Magnesia, ₱	30 @	35	
" Carb, ₱	30 @	35	
Manna S'rs	90 @	1 00	
Morph sul oz	2 40 @	2 50	
Morph No 1, ₱	13 @	14	
Oil.			
Bergamot	3 25 @	3 75	
Castor	2 10 @	2 20	
Cinnamon	2 00 @	2 50	
Cloves	1 90 @	2 00	
Cod liver	2 00 @	2 50	
Lemon	2 40 @	4 75	
Linseed, raw	90 @	95	
Linseed, boil'd	97 @	1 02	
Neatsfoot	1 00 @	1 10	
Olive, qts	1 75 @	2 00	
Olive, pints	1 00 @	1 25	
Olive, ₱ gal	3 50 @	5 00	
Orgeat	50 @	60	
Peppermint	3 00 @	3 50	
Sperm	2 50 @	2 75	
Sassafras	2 00 @	2 50	
Spermaceti	2 50 @	2 75	
Tanners	1 00 @	1 10	
Turpentine	45 @	50	
Whale, gal	85 @	90	
Wintergreen	2 00 @	2 50	
Opium, ₱ ₱	9 75 @	10 00	
Oxalic acid	17 @	20	
Potass, bi-carb	25 @	30	
" Potass, ₱	30 @	35	
" Bi-chrom	20 @	25	
" Chlorate	35 @	40	
" Iodide	3 30 @	3 40	
" Nitrate	10 @	12	
Potty	3½ @	4	
Quicksilver	80 @	85	
Rosin	3 00 @	4 00	
Rust.			
Gunboat	8 @	12	
Ginger El'c	25 @	30	
" Jam'a	18 @	20	
Ipec pow	2 @	2 50	
Licorice	25 @	30	
Liquorice ₱	12 @	14	
Rhubarb El'c	50 @	60	
Sars Hon, ₱	2 @	2 50	
Sarsap'a	50 @	60	
Valer'l Ext	35 @	40	
" Powd	40 @	45	
Senna	25 @	30	
Soda Ash	3½ @	4	
Soap Cast	11 @	14	
Soap Mott	12 @	14	
Sugar L'd's	24 @	30	
Vanilla	1 50 @	2 00	
Vitriol.			
Blue	6 @	6	
Copp'ras	2 @	2	
Japan	23 @	30	
Vanac	10 @	12	
Ven Red	2½ @	4	
Wash.			
Castile	12 @	20	
Castile soda	10 @	12	
Olive	12 @	15	
Palm	8 @	10	
Soda	5 @	6	
Wax.			
Bees	30 @	35	
Bees, ₱ ₱	30 @	35	
Paraffine	15 @	20	
Whiting.			
Paris white	2 @	2	
Whiting	1½ @	2	
Zinc.			
Carb	8 @	10	
Sulph	5 @	6	
Oxide	6 @	8	

Dye-Woods and Extracts.

Alum	3 @	3½	
Blue Stone	6 @	6½	
Bi-chrom	10 @	12	
Camwood	3 @	4	
Cochineal	60 @	65	
Copperas	2 @	2½	
Cudbear	20 @	25	
Fustic	2 @	2½	
Indigo	1 00 @	1 25	
Logwood	2 @	2½	
Madder	12 @	14	
Nicaragua	3 @	3½	
Peachwood	3 @	3½	
Quercitron	3 @	3½	
Sapanwood	3 @	3½	
Sumac	3 @	3½	
Turmeric	3 @	3½	
Verdigris	30

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., February 8, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	Wind. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M..	30.461	30	89	S.	Gentle	Foggy
2 P. M..	30.343	46	60	N. E.	Gentle	Smoky
9 P. M.	30.368	44	75	N.	Gentle	Lt. rain

Mean barometer....30. 10 Highest thermom....52
Mean thermon.... 41 Lowest thermom....29

Pittsburgh Female College.

Next term commences February 4th. Send for catalogue to Rev. J. C. Pershing, D. D., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dr. Hunter

Devotes special attention to diseases of the throat, lungs and ears. Office, No. 178 Fourth avenue, above Grant street. Office hours from 9 A. M. to 7 P. M. FWTF

Ho! For Virginia.

The attention of persons desiring a warmer climate is directed to the advertisement elsewhere, of Captain R. B. Chaffin, now stopping at the Central Hotel. The firm with which he is connected in Richmond, Virginia, have a number of Virginia farms for sale and a few desirable ones (owned by merchants and city men) which they will exchange for property in or near Pittsburgh.

Trouble on the South Side

On Monday Mrs. Van Greser, whose husband keeps a grocery at Fifteenth and Carson street, South Side, made an information before Mayor McCarthy charging her husband with assault and battery. The accused gave bail for a hearing yesterday morning, but at the appointed time the prosecutrix failed to appear, and Van Greser was discharged. It is told that the cause of the trouble between the pair was the discovery by the husband of a member of the Fire Department in his, the husband's best room, with his wife. A disturbance occurred, but the fireman got away with but a few bruises. Van Greser then, it appears, attacked his wife, which is the cause of the prosecution.

It is said that the fireman was off duty at the time of the difficulty, but the matter may notwithstanding, be a subject of inquiry. There is a standing committee of the Board of Fire Commissioners on Complaints and Charges, and they are generally pretty severe in their sentences.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

James Linn, bankrupt, Washington county. The assignee's report of the sale of certain real estate presented and confirmed *nisi*.

Jacob Lorner, bankrupt, of Erie county. The report of the Register upon the liens against the real estate of said bankrupt under the order of reference of September 28, 1876, presented and filed and confirmed *nisi*, and no exceptions thereto having been made, the same is this day confirmed absolutely.

In the matter of William M. Lloyd, of Belair county, alleged bankrupt, an argument took place as to whether the debtor shall now be required to file a list of all his creditors, as provided for by the 35th section. Messrs. Meade and Hall for the creditors and Blair for the debtor.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Stowe and Collier.

Lauer & Gilles vs. J. H. Dieker, action for work done in building a house. Verdict for defendant and a balance certified in his favor of $500.

James Shaw, for use vs. John Dixon *et al.* Verdict for defendant.

Emery Linhart vs. Mary Flowes, owner, and George McEnulty, James McCully and David McEnulty, contractors. Verdict for plaintiff for eighty-six dollars.

J. J. Hermaman, in trust for the Workingmen's Savings Bank vs. Jacob Kann. Verdict for plaintiff for $565 64.

A. L. Kippman & Co. vs. L. Markowitz; action for goods sold. Verdict for plaintiff for $65 83.

Craft vs. Feilbach; action on notes. Verdict for plaintiff for $171 33.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Jackson vs. McKee et al.; Clegg vs. Nelson et al.; Hosick vs. Brinker et al.; Lanahan vs. Jennings; Lanahan et al. vs. same; Kittanning Brick Co. vs. Markowitz; Caskey et al.; Robinson, use, vs. Jackson et al.; Diamond vs. Diamond; Reed & Ewing vs. Way et al.; Way vs. same; Otis, for use, vs. Stupy et al.; People's Fire Insurance Company vs. Baldinger; Mechanics' Savings Bank vs. Allegheny Valley Railroad Company; Dungan vs. Cole & Irwin.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Ewing, White and Kirkpatrick.

Wm. Chambers vs. David Gregg; previously reported. Verdict for the plaintiff for $3,895 66.

John J. Albitz vs. Joseph Marks; action to recover for services as a bookkeeper. On trial.

Wm. Dore vs. S. M. Brinton; action for damages for obstructing a private road. On trial.

Robert Woods vs. Charles Ihmsen's executor. Auditor's report approved absolutely.

A. J. Pentecost vs. James Godfrey et al.; previously reported. Verdict for plaintiff for $4,487 05, subject to opinion of Court on a question of law reserved.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Ward vs. Lemon; Downey vs. Aughinbaugh *et al.*; Woods *et ux.* vs. Miller; Cramer vs. May; Clark vs. Miller; McIntosh & Phillips vs. Wrighter; Barr vs. Allegheny Trust Company; Monahan & Butz vs. Dietrich, owner, &c., (3); Mutual Building and Loan Association of Allegheny vs. Gray *et al.*; Connell vs. Blue.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

A nolle pros. was allowed in the case of C. S. Black, indicted for misdemeanor under the lottery act. John McNulty was the prosecutor.

John Monahan *alias* John Coyle, indicted for entering a building with intent to commit a felony, was convicted, but recommended to the mercy of the Court. W. S. Crooks was the prosecutor.

James Rafferty, trustee of the Park Saving Bank, vs. George W. Campbell. Verdict for plaintiff, $531 59.

George Warren, Ferdinand Deitrick, Chris Leseling, Conrad Leseling, John Keseling, George Keseling, and Matthew Keseling, are on trial on a charge of forcible entry and malicious mischief. It is alleged that they broke into the dwelling of John Dolan, in Collier township, and maliciously destroyed windows and doors. The same parties are also charged with having entered the dwelling of Terrence and Charles McGrogan, with intent to commit a felony.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Commonwealth vs. Zadock Street, Chas. Kimball, H. L. Wagner, Garrison Mossby, John H. Cummings, John Parker, Daniel Hartz, Eliza Bell, Stephen Dyer, James Southern, John Warner, Casper Fath, Thomas H. Devereux, Robert M. Elliott, Robert Conner, Louisa McCoy, George Kohler, John Irwin, Andrew Lippert, Thomas Traunter, J. D. Vierheller *et al.*, Andrew Cosgrove, W. J. Steel *et al.*

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

CHIEF OF POLICE HARTZELL proposes to have an officer at the Mayor's office all night.

C. C. HUFF has been appointed hospital steward of the Fourteenth Regiment by Colonel Hill.

THE Executive Committee of the Humane Society will meet this afternoon, at 3:30 o'clock, at 218 Penn avenue.

Two prisoners were discharged from the Western Penitentiary yesterday, their term of imprisonment with commutation having expired.

THE house of W. B. Rodgers, Esq., City Solicitor of Allegheny, on Irwin avenue, was entered by a thief Monday afternoon, who got away with $40 in cash.

THE Republican Executive Committee of Allegheny City met last evening and ordered the primary elections to be held between 3:30 and 6 P. M. on Saturday next.

COLONEL HILL, of the Fourteenth Regiment, appointed Lieutenant Huff, the young and popular Wylie avenue druggist, hospital steward of the regiment.

THE Caroline Richings Bernard English opera company will open at Wheeling tomorrow and Friday evenings. Mr. J. J. Benisi, of this city, is with the company.

THE sub-committee of the Finance Committee, appointed to prepare the appropriation ordinances for the current fiscal year, met yesterday and commenced their work. They hope to be ready to report to the general committee by Friday next.

WE ARE indebted to Alderman C. O'Donnell for the copy of the proposed act of Assembly increasing the amount in civil jurisdiction of aldermen to $300. Esquire O'Donnell is one of the worthy and reliable magistrates in whose hands the interests of plaintiffs and defendants are secure.

THIEVES, Monday night, visited a house at the corner of Sandusky and North Diamond streets, Allegheny, and prepared and ate a good square meal. At the close of their repast the rascals gathered up a few articles of silver ware, with which they departed.

THE friends of Mr. David Cameron, a shoemaker by occupation, who resided with his unmarried sister on Mount Washington, are exceedingly anxious in consequence of his unaccountable absence from home. He left his residence on the 28th of January, for the purpose of coming to the city, since which time no tidings of him have been heard.

IT IS more than a month yet till moving day, but it is said that Mr. Avery, Miss McCoy and Miss Pence are already making active preparations for "flitting" from the Reform school, where they have so long "made children happy" by their wise governance.—*Leader.* Miss Pence has not been making anybody very "happy" about the Reform School for some months past, as she is one of the principal witnesses for the prosecution.

THE REFORM SCHOOL

A PHILIPPIC AGAINST THE PRESS.

"Drawing on the Imagination."

More Testimony for the Defense.

Statement of Miss Belle McCoy, Mrs. Sarah Painter, nee Marquis, and Others—False Rumors Denied, Etc., Etc.

The Legislative Committee resumed their investigation at the Reform School, yesterday morning, Mr. Plummer in the chair. It was intended to begin at half-past nine, but only one member (Mr. Thornton) had been fortunate enough to make the early train. It was not long, however, until the other members arrived by the street railway, and at a quarter past ten the chairman announced the committee ready for business.

MR. SWARTZWELDER ON THE PRESS.

Mr. Swartzwelder rose and addressed the committee substantially as follows:

Mr. Chairman—I have not been in the habit in my professional career of replying to newspaper talk, nor of conferring with reporters in any way—in my own defense, nor in defense of the parties for whom I am engaged; but when I see it intimated, in fact alleged, that I have been in communication with reporters for the purpose of withdrawing from the case, in which I have been retained, because I think that the side on which I am has no merit, or because the side which is opposed to me has overpowered me—it is a falsehood; I might use a stronger word, but I shall not. There are various considerations which might be mentioned why I might retire from this case, might mention, among these reasons, the great length of time which this case promises to occupy; taking me from the ordinary duties of my profession, and thus causing a loss to my clients and myself. Another reason I might mention is the mode of conducting this examination. Among those not members of the legal profession—whom we call laymen—the plain, long established rules of evidence are not regarded. These rules have long been regarded as absolutely fixed and established, and the experience of many years has shown them absolutely necessary in order to sift out the testimony and ascertain the reliability of the witnesses and their testimony. I am certain that, in the world in which the newspapers practice, these rules which I have referred to are utterly disregarded. I am satisfied, after a long experience and careful consideration, of the great power of newspapers for good or evil; but I say here, in the light of that experience and thought, that the evil which newspapers do is greater than the good.

From what I have seen and heard—from what I heard last night and this morning—I should not be surprised if you should wake up some morning to find these buildings in ashes and find the superintendent murdered. Last evening a gentleman, whose name is Morgan, informed me that he overheard a gentleman and a company of four—respectable looking men, too,—say that he would be one of four to come down here and lynch the Superintendent! It needs but a spark to kindle the flame which these incendiary newspapers have started. I would not sleep here a single night for fear that the building would be burned. The newspapers paint in glowing words everything that is developed for the prosecution, and when the testimony for the defense comes they omit a great deal of it and change other parts of it.

Mr. Swartzwelder then announced that, notwithstanding the reasons enumerated, he might have withdrawn from the case, he had consented to go on with it.

STATEMENT OF THE MATRON.

Miss Belle McCoy sworn—[The statement of this witness, as taken before the State Board of Charities, has already been published, but we repeat it in a condensed form.] Witness had been connected with the School thirteen or fourteen months. She came here in 1862 or 1863, and Mr. Avery came a month afterwards. He first came as the next Superintendent, and after words became Superintendent. She was teacher first, then assistant matron, and then matron, which position she now occupies. Before she came here she was a teacher in the public schools for twenty years. Always had charge of scholars. Understood the duties of matron. During the last three or four years it had been customary for the matron to do all the whipping in the girls' department. Previous to that it was allowable for the teachers to whip the scholars for offenses committed in the school. The witness was asked about the average number of corporeal punishments per month. Inflicted the past year, in answer to which she said that some months there were no whippings at all. Witness never used a wagon whip or a cart whip or a cow hide in punishing the inmates. She generally used a lady's small riding whip. She never whipped anyone in anger or revenge, and never whipped so hard as to cause the blood to flow. She never struck a girl more than six blows at one time. She punished the girls just as she would have punished one of her own children. Lucinda Jones was a very rebellious girl; her neck and face have been marked; she was whipped for trying to get up a rebellion in the school. She had also, the latter part of the year, eight blows; never gave any of the girls more than that; never heard of Lucinda Jones being seriously whipped; does not think the whippings would number one a week. There were often days and weeks when there were no whippings.

To Mr. Findley—Never heard of a boy having had his arm knocked out of place in the shops, till I heard of it lately.

To Mr. Gill—There might have been a slight tap on the arm with a key and I not know it; but there could not have been any injuries inflicted in that way without my knowing it. I did whipping myself.

Mr. Gill—How hard was the hardest whipping you gave?

Witness—I could not tell you, unless you would allow me to illustrate upon you personally. [Laughter].

Mr. Gill—I would object to that.

Mr. Plummer—I will have to send for one of those whips.

Mr. Gill—How many severe whippings did you inflict, and what with?

Witness—I can only recollect three. I used a strap, but not severely. I struck it slowly. Miss McCoy struck faster than I did. I do not think that she ever gave more than three dozen blows. Gave it on the three blows, such as I gave, sufficient. I intended to make the blows fall; never saw more than one girl whipped in one day.

Mr. Gill—What was the character of the girls who were punished here.

Mr. Plummer—Can you give the average reputation. [Laughter].

To Mr. Gill—I did six whippings a year, I presume; I think twelve whippings a year would be a full average on the girls' side; I could not say how long any girl was put in the locking-up. The longest time, one week, as they were always brought to chapel; never knew of the bread to be made so good that the children ate too much of it; some of the girls got so fat and lazy that we could scarcely get any work out of them [Laughter]; never knew of an order to the baker not to make the bread so good; Miss McCoy had a whip but I said it was not half the length of seven-and-a-half feet long.

To Mr. Plummer—I have whipped occasionally in the school. Do not always report to the matron; the ends of the strap were alike—no knots on either end.

TREATMENT OF SARAH WOODS.

Sarah Woods sworn—Was an inmate here; came here in 1875; left last May; received only one whipping; was punished by that gentleman. He said he was not going to remove while this investigation was pending. Any action he might take in the matter would be considered as disorderly. He has no notion of going off in a hurry.

The allegation that there had been threats of violence made toward officers in the institution, created some talk in the neighborhood; but, so far as we could learn, there was no foundation whatever for the rumors." If it could even be called so. There had been some high words used in a drinking saloon, not far from the Reform School, in consequence of parties taking sides for and against the institution and foolish boasts made, both of them were inspired by bad whisky, and not by inflammatory newspaper reports. If Mr. Avery remains in the institution until he is driven out by violence, he will "hold the fort" a long time.

The investigation will be resumed at half-past nine o'clock this morning, at the same place.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following transfers of real estate were recorded in the office of Ralph Richardson, Recorder, yesterday:

Sheriff Wyle to J. A. Cochran, January 15, 1876; lot on Franklin street, Sixth ward, Allegheny.....$ 25

John W. Bain to Thos. Frabe, October 25, 1875; two lots in Bakerstown, Richland township.....1,000

James R. Ferguson to O. H. Bateman, December 31, 1875; lot in Indiana township. Hugh Forrester to Robt. Forrester, February 3, 1876; three-fourths interest in lot in Bellevue borough.....750

Sheriff Hamilton to Wm. C. Miller, December 18, 1876; lot on Tustin street, Fourteenth ward, city.....80

Nathan Gossett to Maria Smith, December 14, 1875; lot in Second ward, Allegheny, 21x60 feet.....1,700

Homestead Bank to Isadore Rosenbach, July 24, 1874; lot in Homestead Park.....125

Frederick P. Keller to John Swineberg, November 16, 1872; lot in Penn township.....700

W. W. Knox to N. K. Miller, July 1, 1873; two lots Lower St. Clair township.....900

Emma Metz to Wm. Metz, May 3, 1875; lot Twenty-six ward, Carson street, 20x120 feet.....4,000

William Rea to Charles A. Stimple, November 8, 1872; lot Seventh ward, Allegheny, East street, 36x90 feet.....1,400

Henry Sutneyer to James L. McCain, June 15, 1870; lot 65x120 feet, Franklin street, Allegheny.....4,100

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long retain their situations. If it had been done in the wholesale way alleged here, I know I would have heard of it. Never knew of a girl to be put in the lock-up. Cannot recollect the number of blows inflicted at a whipping—that would depend upon the temperament of the person whipping, some striking quicker than others. The tendency of the general treatment was unquestionably for good. In my opinion, there was an absolute necessity for the punishments inflicted. Mr. Avery frequently instructed the officers as to their duties, spoke kindly to them, and these lectures did me good I know. I think I would whip my own children, for similar offenses, even harder than they were punished here. Never saw large whip, cat-o'-nine-tails, straight jackets, gags, or any such things, while I was here.

Mr. Gill—I cannot recollect that it has ever been affirmed that cat-o'-nine-tails were used.

Mr. Swartzwelder—One of our witnesses so testified.

Mr. Gill—I do not recollect it.

Mr. Swartzwelder—It is so alleged, nevertheless.

To Mr. Swartzwelder—I never investigated any of the girls' backs, but I never heard of, or saw, marks on them.

To Mr. Findley—I think it hard to be asked how many blows any one struck. I think it unlikely that any one got as high as twenty blows. No officer was ever instructed to give a certain number—either more or less.

To Mr. Plummer—I do not think the whippings would number one a week. There were often days and weeks when there were no whippings.

To Mr. Findley—Never heard of a boy having had his arm knocked out of place in the shops, till I heard of it lately.

To Mr. Gill—There might have been a slight tap on the arm with a key and I not know it; but there could not have been any injuries inflicted in that way without my knowing it. I did whipping myself.

Mr. Gill—How hard was the hardest whipping you gave?

Witness—I could not tell you, unless you would allow me to illustrate upon you personally. [Laughter].

Mr. Gill—I would object to that.

Mr. Plummer—Then I will have to send for one of those whips.

Mr. Gill—How many severe whippings did you inflict, and what with?

Witness—I can only recollect three. I used a strap, but not severely. I struck it slowly. Miss McCoy struck faster than I did. I do not think that she ever gave more than three dozen blows. Gave it on the three blows, such as I gave, sufficient. I intended to make the blows fall; never saw more than one girl whipped in one day.

Mr. Gill—What was the character of the girls who were punished here.

Mr. Plummer—Can you give the average reputation. [Laughter].

To Mr. Gill—I did six whippings a year, I presume; I think twelve whippings a year would be a full average on the girls' side; I could not say how long any girl was put in the locking-up. The longest time, one week, as they were always brought to chapel; never knew of the bread to be made so good that the children ate too much of it; some of the girls got so fat and lazy that we could scarcely get any work out of them [Laughter]; never knew of an order to the baker not to make the bread so good; Miss McCoy had a whip but I said it was not half the length of seven-and-a-half feet long.

To Mr. Plummer—I have whipped occasionally in the school. Do not always report to the matron; the ends of the strap were alike—no knots on either end.

TREATMENT OF SARAH WOODS.

Sarah Woods sworn—Was an inmate here; came here in 1875; left last May; received only one whipping; was punished by that gentleman. He said he was not going to remove while this investigation was pending. Any action he might take in the matter would be considered as disorderly. He has no notion of going off in a hurry.

The allegation that there had been threats of violence made toward officers in the institution, created some talk in the neighborhood; but, so far as we could learn, there was no foundation whatever for the rumors." If it could even be called so. There had been some high words used in a drinking saloon, not far from the Reform School, in consequence of parties taking sides for and against the institution and foolish boasts made, both of them were inspired by bad whisky, and not by inflammatory newspaper reports. If Mr. Avery remains in the institution until he is driven out by violence, he will "hold the fort" a long time.

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ALLEGHENY FINANCES.

First Meeting of the New Committee—Fixing the Appropriations — The $75,000 Asked by the Police Committee Refused—A Discussion of Police Matters, &c., &c.

The Committee on Finance, of Allegheny Councils, for 1876, held their first meeting last evening, all the members being present.

After considering some unimportant matters, the reports and statements of the Controller were taken up, of which we give synopses:

CITY VALUATION.

The following is a statement of the cash valuation of the city for 1876:

Real estate	$46,051,535
Personal	1,054,645
Occupation	7,314,650
Total	$55,020,811

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS FOR 1876.

The Controller's statement of estimated receipts for 1876 was read, as follows:

City taxes	$247,500 00
Business tax	13,000 00
Water tax	100,000 00
Water rents, per meter	5,000 00
Water rents, new buildings	1,500 00
Water rents, second assessment	3,370 00
Markets	20,000 00
Wharves and landings	2,000 00
Diamond scales	2,500 00
Second ward scales	3,500 00
Fourth ward scales	200 00
Measuring wood and bark	1,500 00
Street permits	1,000 00
Interest on bank balances	2,500 00
Mayor's office, fines, etc	5,000 00
Lot regulations	840 00
Sewer permits	200 00
Vehicle license	10,000 00
Dog regulations	1,800 00
Water Works lot, rent	225 00
Delinquent taxes	40,000 00
Sale of ferrules	902 25
Ground rents	1,741 62
P., Ft. W. and C. R. R. Co	3,400 00
P., A. and M. P. Ry. Co	2,117 00
P. V. Ry. Co	624 00
U. S. Postoffice Department, rent	1,600 00
Board of Health	300 00
Collecting school tax	3,000 00
Total	$434,833 17

THE APPROPRIATIONS.

The appropriations for the present year were next considered, and were fixed as follows:

No. 1—Salaries	$ 38,423
No. 2—Interest	45,000
No. 3—Redemption	62,762
No. 4—Printing	5,000
No. 5—Streets	40,000
No. 6—Wharves and landings	1,000
No. 7—Surveys	2,500
No. 8—Lighting by Mayor	6,685
No. 9—Contingent fund	40,000
No. 11—Water works	50,093
No. 12—Outstanding warrants	889
No. 13—Gas	20,000
No. 14—Sinking fund, 4 per cent	20,000
No. 15—Improvement of wharf bonds	1,950
No. 16—City property	11,000
No. 17—Relief	5,000
No. 18—Bills payable	60,000
No. 19—Markets	800
No. 20—Park commission	13,000
No. 21—Sinking fund, water bonds	15,000
No. 22—Sinking fund, city prop bonds	3,000
No. 23—Sinking fund, sewer bonds	4,000
Total	$434,833

DISCUSSION OF POLICE MATTERS.

When the proposed appropriation of $75,000 for police purposes was taken up, the Mayor read a petition, signed by a large number of prominent business men and firms of the city, asking an increase of the police force to one hundred men. He said this was the very best petition of the kind ever presented to Councils.

Mr. Golden thought it was the very worst. These petitioners were wealthy, and could afford to pay an increased taxation, while poor men were already overburdened and oppressed with taxes.

Mr. Drum said the petitioners lived in districts which were already adequately protected. He could not perceive the necessity for an increase of police forces. Many of the night patrolmen at present were utterly worthless, doing nothing beyond arressing a poor drunken man occasionally, while believed criminals were permitted to go free. If the increase should not be composed of better material than the present force—and he saw no reason to believe that it would—it would not mend matters much if the force were increased to three hundred.

Col. Bayne said that while he favored the principle of retrenchment wherever it could be applied, he was decidedly in favor of an increase of the police force. He had had some experience in criminal matters, and knew that the best thieves and burglars who had been detected and arrested by night patrolmen. This was the case in Pittsburgh, where the force was more numerous in proportion to which our city. Where an officer had charge of a "beat" which he could traverse frequently, burglars had small opportunity to pursue their vocation. He had been informed by the Mayor that the daylight force numbered only ten men. This accounted for the numerous robberies which had occurred in this city between the hours of six and seven in the evening, before the night force went on duty. He was convinced that the force was inadequate, and should be increased. He was sure that a majority of the community was in favor of it: It was proposed to add forty-two men to the force. By reducing the pay of each man to twenty dollars per month, the cost would involve an additional expense of only $27,000. The petitioners for the increase represent about one-third of the assessed valuation of the city, and their petition was entitled to favorable consideration. As to the assertion of a gentleman that the burdens of taxation fell heavy on poor people, he thought it a mistaken opinion. A citizen assessed to the amount of $5,000, would not be required to pay more than $1 50 additional taxes by the adoption of the proposed measure. He felt that no one would be very little objection on the part of the people when they should realize the advantages of an adequate police force.

Mr. Voegtly said if there was a good detective at the head of the force its efficiency would be largely increased. As for Chief Ross, he was not a detective, but he spent too much of his time at the Court House. He spent from three to four hours a day there. A Chief of Police should not only possess a knowledge of the business of a detective, but should mingle with the thieves and burglars in order to gain a knowledge of their ways and movements.

Mayor Phillips said in regard to the visits of Chief Ross to the Court House, he had twenty-five or thirty cases of robberies talked over with him by several of the detective force. There was an element in the community very much to be feared, especially when backed by public sentiment as expressed through the newspapers.

Mr. Plummer said he belonged to the editorial fraternity, and was proud of it. He thought the language of Mr. Swartzwelder Morganza, were not only harsh, but brutally so, considering the fact that the reporters for the press present were there on his invitation. The reporters were an overworked and generally underpaid class of men, and justice was not always done them. It was worthy of remark that, during this long investigation, only one witness had undertaken to have a correction made in the published reports. The reporters were governed by differences—or the coloring which might be given to one side or the other—the reporters were not responsible. They were there only to give the facts. The editors made such use of those facts as they saw fit. The full report of their stenographer, but that would not be written out for several weeks.

Mr. Swartzwelder said the character of the reports was objectionable. There was a search for something terrible; and now that they had got the monster, like unto it, they made it shorn of its hideous proportions.

Mr. Plummer thought that lawyers, as a class, were in the habit of abusing people quite as frequently as reporters.

Mr. Swartzwelder said a lawyer spoke to twelve men, where a reporter spoke to as many thousands.

Mr. Plummer was leaving the platform at this time, and Mr. Swartzwelder approached him so closely that the speeches at once assumed a conversational tone.

RUMORS DENIED.

The statement in one of the morning papers that Mr. Avery is engaged in removing his library preparatory to leaving with his family, was pronounced wholly false by that gentleman. He said he was not going to remove while this investigation was pending. Any action he might take in the matter would be considered as disorderly. He has no notion of going off in a hurry.

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THE HIGH SCHOOLS.

Report of the Visiting Committee—The Commercial Department.

The High School Visiting Committee of the Central Board of Education, for the month of January, at the meeting yesterday, made the report printed below and it was referred to the Committee on High School. The report is noticeable, and at once arrests attention, because of its statement that the Commercial department is not progressing as satisfactorily as heretofore. This is a matter of surprise because we have always considered this department as not only one of the most important in our High school but as one of the most successful; and we know that its success has been so apparent that it has done much to advance the the school in popular regard. The report while saying that in the opinion of the committee the department is not as efficient and complete in its operations as formerly, yet commends the teachers as qualified and capable, and says that no blame can attach to them. No explanation of the cause of lessened efficiency is given further than that it is caused by "changes in the manner of conducting the department" and the reader will note that the committee significantly say that "other changes are contemplated" which in their opinion "will still further operate injuriously against its success." We think the committee erred in not reporting the changes they think injurious, but no doubt the High School Committee will inform the Board thereon. Following is the report:

To the President and Members of the Central Board:

Your committee visited the High School on Wednesday, February 2d, and beg leave to submit the following report:

We first visited the chapel where we found the Principal, teachers and pupils assembled for opening exercises. These exercises consist of music by the High School choir, reading and prayer by one of the professors. At their close the pupils were dismissed in classes, by the Principal, and immediately passed to their respective departments to commence the recitations of the day. The order observed by the pupils during the opening exercises and while passing to the different rooms, gave evidence of that thorough discipline so essential in an institution where so many of the young of both sexes are from day to day assembled for educational purposes. We visited successively the drawing, Academical, Normal and Commercial departments, and listened to recitations or parts or recitations in each room.

Considerable time was spent in examining the work of the pupils in the department first named. One or two hours of each week is devoted to the subject of drawing, and notwithstanding the comparatively small proportion of time devoted to the study, the excellence of the work done by many of the pupils, and the apparent progress made by a large majority of them, evidenced a thoroughness in instruction which reflects credit on the teachers of the department. Several rooms of the Academical department were visited, where we had the pleasure of listening to exercises in physiology, geography, algebra and Latin, conducted respectively by Professors Durling, Bancroft, Merick and Scribner.

All these recitations were listened to with interest and satisfaction. Generally speaking, the pupils were well prepared and recited as though they possessed an intelligent knowledge of the subject under discussion.

In the Normal department we heard an exercise in book-keeping by Professor Weston. The exercise had been previously proposed in manuscript form by the pupils and afterwards corrected by the teacher. In this exercise, as in many others, we pointed out the errors detected and explained fully the necessary corrections. This recitation, as well as that of the academical department, gave evidence of careful preparation, and of the teachers' desire to secure a proper drunken man occasionally, while believed criminals were permitted to go free. If the increase should not be composed of better material than the present force—and he saw no reason to believe that it would—it would not mend matters much if the force were increased to three hundred.

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